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ISSUE

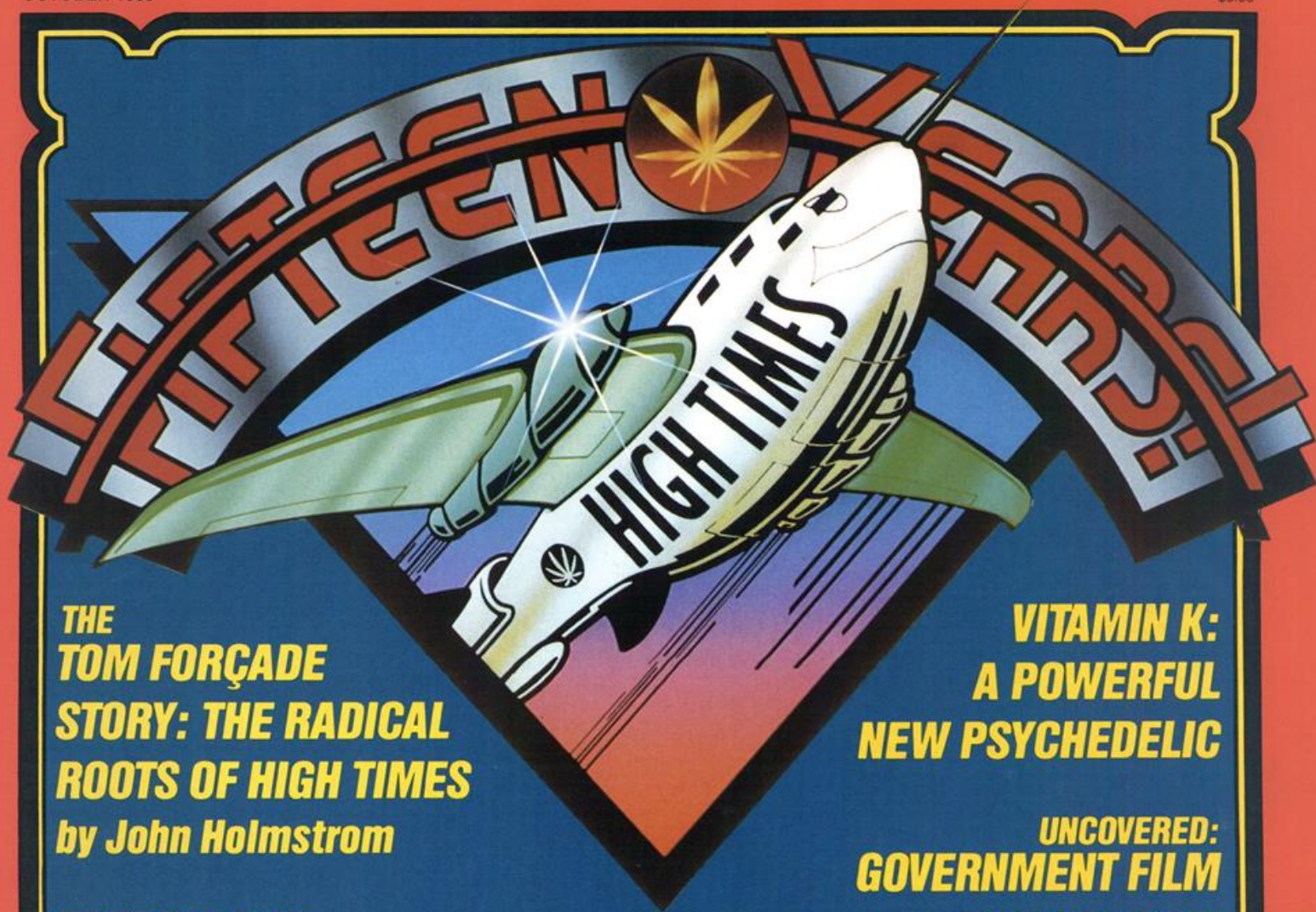
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HIGH TIMES

OCTOBER 1989

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by John Holmstrom

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**VITAMIN K:
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**UNCOVERED:
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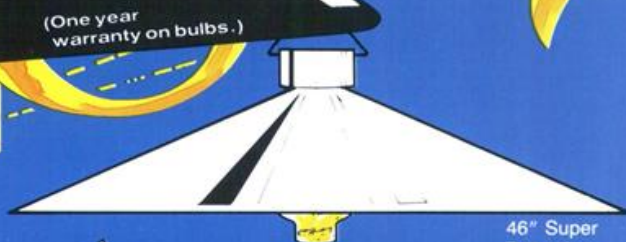
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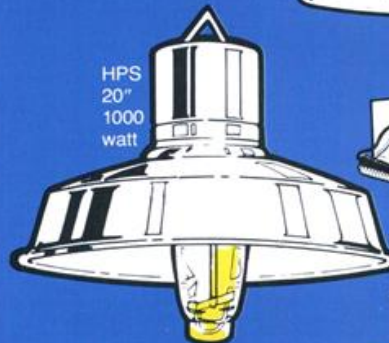
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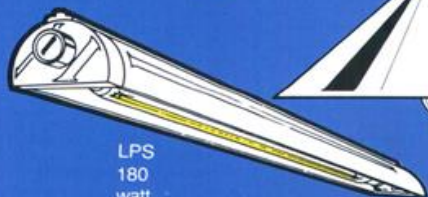
HPS 20" 1000 watt



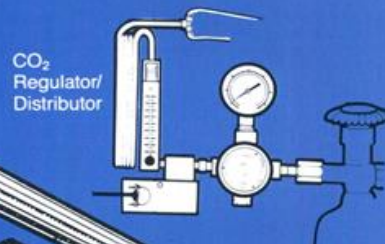
MH Deluxe Ballast



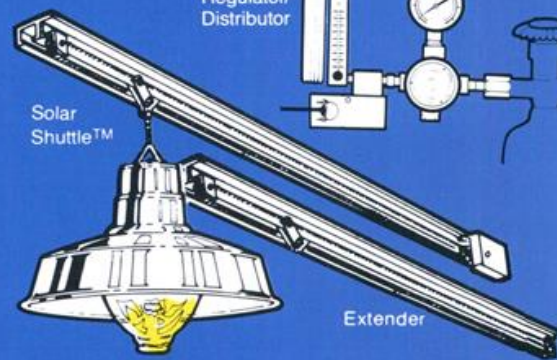
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On the cover: HIGH TIMES 15th
Anniversary logo special
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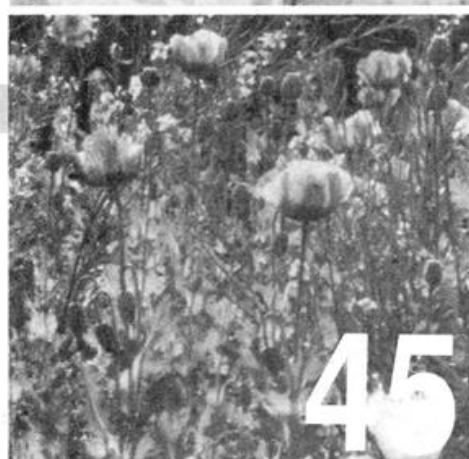
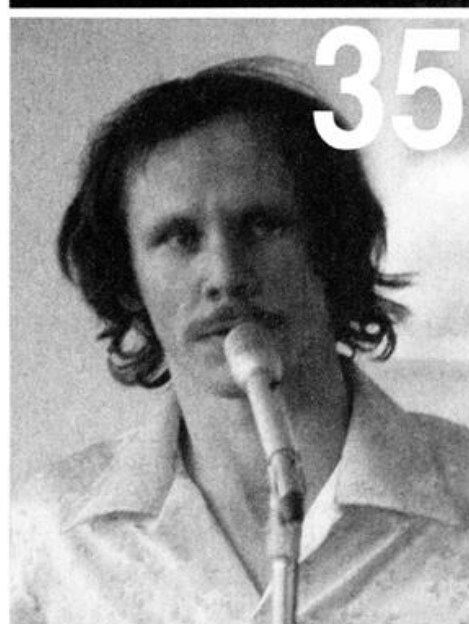
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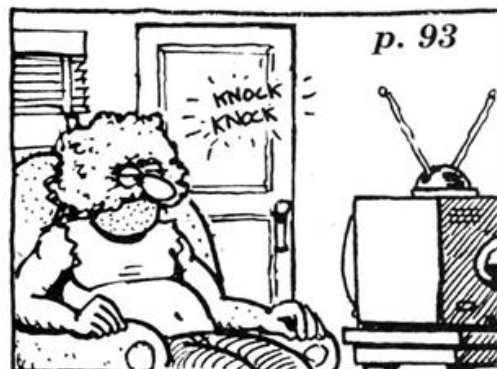
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HIGH TIMES

PUBLISHER
ROBERT ARONSON
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF
STEVEN HAGER
EXECUTIVE EDITOR
JOHN HOLMSTROM
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RAYMOND L. BLACKSTOCK
ADVERTISING MANAGER
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ASSISTANT EDITOR
JUDY McGUIRE

CONTRIBUTING WRITERS
ED ROSENTHAL, CULTIVATION
STEVE BLOOM, NEWS
BRAM, INDOOR GROW
MIKE SAPPOL, COPY
ROBERT CONNELL CLARKE,
THE GENERAL,
PETER GORMAN, RA JAMES,
AID MacSPADE, JAMES MARSHALL,
CARLO McCORMICK, KYLE ROQ,
LOU STATHIS

CONTRIBUTING ARTISTS AND PHOTOGRAPHERS
BRIAN SPAETH, DESIGN
ELIN WILDER, PHOTOS
DAVID ALLEN, ACE BACKWORDS,
ANDRE LEROY DAVIS,
ERIC DROOKER, JOHN EDER,
BOB FINGERMAN,
ANDRE GROSSMANN,
MILTON KNIGHT, LENNIE MACE,
FRANK MAX, JAMES ROMBERGER,
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FOUNDING EDITOR
THOMAS KING FORÇADE, 1945-1978

OCTOBER 1989 • No. 170 • ISSN #0362-630X is published monthly by Trans-High Corporation, Robert Aronson, President • Mail subscriptions (payable in US funds) and changes of address (please include most recent mailing label) to PO Box 410, Mt. Morris, IL, 61054 • Subscriptions in the United States: 12 issues for \$29.95, 24 issues for \$54.95 • Single copy price: \$3.95 • In Canada: 12 issues for \$37.45, 24 issues for \$68.95 • All other countries by surface mail: 12 issues for \$37.45 • All other countries by airmail: \$67.00 • Offices at 211 East 43rd St., New York, NY 10017 • Second class postage paid at New York, NY, and at additional mailing offices • Manuscripts must be accompanied by a self-addressed stamped envelope • All contributions will be carefully considered, but the publishers and editors assume no responsibility for loss or injury to unsolicited material • Copyright 1989 by Trans-High Corporation. Nothing in this publication may be reproduced in any manner, either in whole or in part, without specific written permission of the publisher. All rights reserved. "High Times" is a registered trademark. HIGH TIMES and Trans-High Corporation assume no responsibility for any claims or representations contained in this magazine or in any advertisement, nor do they encourage the illegal use of any of the products advertised within. All advertising and advertised products void where prohibited. Postmaster: Please send address changes to HIGH TIMES, PO Box 410, Mt. Morris, IL, 61054.

PAGE SIX

Prophecy is one of the most important components of the magazine business. Because of the long lead time involved, what's happening now is never as important as what will be happening six months from now. It's a tricky game, and not too many are good at it. But every now and then an editor comes along who so accurately predicts trends that he profoundly shapes the development of popular culture. At HIGH TIMES we're lucky enough to have one such editor on staff: John Holmstrom.

After graduating from the School of Visual Arts in New York, Holmstrom founded *Punk* magazine while still a teenager. The first issue appeared in January, 1976. The magazine launched the CBGB scene--of which the Ramones became the most popular band--and inspired the punk movement in London. *Punk* also spawned the music fanzine movement. The magazine was so wild and so far ahead of its time that very few people realized its importance in 1976. Tom Forçade, the founder of HIGH TIMES, was one of the few. He immediately drew Holmstrom into his inner circle and started plans to distribute *Punk*.

And that's why Holmstrom was designated to write the real story of Tom Forçade for our 15th anniversary issue (see page 35). It's the startling and amazing story of the most overlooked leader of the '60s counterculture. Had he lived, cannabis would probably be legal today.

Readers may be a little surprised by the content of this issue. Instead of concentrating on pot growing articles, it presents a more balanced spectrum similar to the original issues of HIGH TIMES. If you like or dislike this approach please let us know by filling out the 1989 reader survey enclosed in the issue. And please be aware that our coverage of the Golden Triangle on page 45 is not meant to encourage the use of opium. I also have grave reservations about the use of Vitamin K (page 64), a powerful psychedelic that requires needle injection. In the age of AIDS, needles are best avoided altogether. However, both articles contain revealing information about the drug world that will never be published in the mainstream media. Since we are frequently the sole sane voice on drug issues, it's our responsibility to present the real facts.

Sincerely yours,

Steven Hager

Steven Hager
Editor-in-Chief



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John Holmstrom, Tom Forçade and Jack Coombs in 1978.



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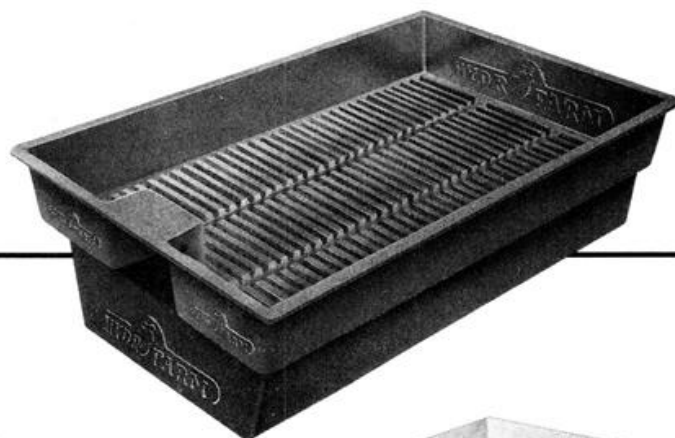
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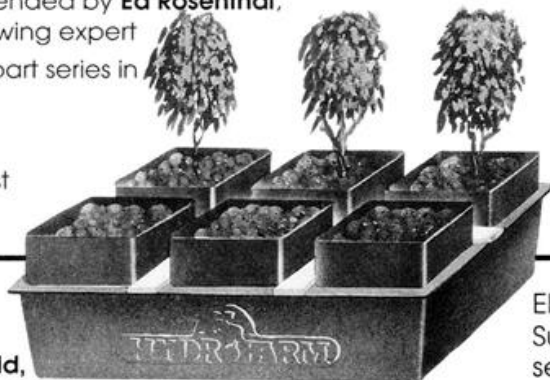
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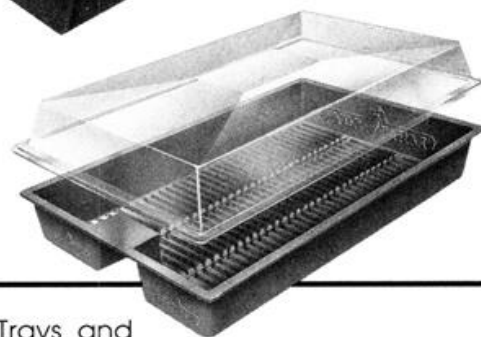
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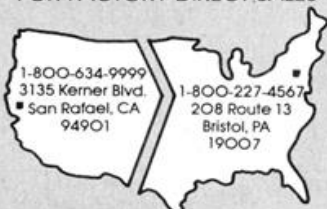


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* Northern Lights & Hydroponics 1-800-837-2774
4722 Great Northern Blvd. N. Olmstead, OH 44070
Northern Lights & Hydroponics (216) 922-0777
2039 State Road, Cuyahoga Falls, OH 44223
Waterbeds & Stuff (614) 276-4722
3788 W. Broad St., Columbus, OH 43228
7 Ohio stores - Mail orders call - Direct Source
1-800-848-1408, Ohio, 1-800-971-1668
- OKLAHOMA**
Urban-Tek Growers Supply (405) 843-1888
2911 W. Wilshire, Oklahoma City, OK 73116
- PENNSYLVANIA**
Northern Lights & Hydroponics 1-800-937-9930
4 Mahoning Ave., New Castle, PA 16102
Northern Lights & Hydroponics 1-800-635-1383
2809 Pine Ave., Erie, PA 16504
Northern Lights & Hydroponics (412) 941-6335
Rauch Bld., 4050 Washington, McMurray, PA
- TEXAS**
Brazos Indoor Garden Ctr., (713) 661-9473
5815 Bellaire Blvd., Houston, TX 77081
- WISCONSIN**
Madison Indoor Garden Supply (608) 221-9292
6420 Bridge Rd., Monona, WI 53713
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Brite Lite/Que' Pousse (514) 489-3806
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Now!
The only **UL** listed
Grow Light Systems
on the market!

Dear Customers;

Thanks to you, our Grow Wing and Sunburst grow lights are the most popular lights in use today. Now, we've set a whole new standard for performance and quality with our new **UL SERIES** of grow lights.

We've made our new Super Grow wing reflector **20% larger** to cover more area with the **highest intensity** uniform light pattern ever offered! The UL SERIES also incorporates a UL-required tempered glass lens and is constructed out of strong steel (not thin aluminum).

Don't be fooled by others that claim to use UL components (any electrical plug is a UL component). This is **not** the same thing as having the **entire** system UL listed. Only HYDROFARM - UL SERIES lights have been professionally tested and are listed by UL (Underwriters Laboratories), the world-famous electrical and safety testing organization.

We continue to offer our top quality UL listed ballast assembly with all our lights, and of course, our often imitated **Safety-First** wiring system.

We will continue to offer you only the best quality growing equipment, and our being the **first** company in the market to offer UL listed grow lights says how we feel about this commitment.

Thank you for your confidence in us.

Applied Hydroponics, Inc.
Makers of Hydrofarm Indoor
Gardening products

BETTER DESIGNED - BETTER BUILT

HYDROFARM LIGHT TRACK™

- Hang horizontal or vertical lights
- No-drip motor: lifetime lubrication
- Heavy-duty four wheel carrier
- Full five year guarantee

OTHERS

- Hang vertical lights only
- Motor drips: needs oiling
- Weak one wheel carrier
- One year guarantee only

NEW!

THE HYDROFARM LIGHT TRACK™

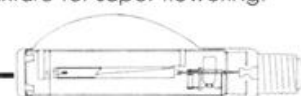
FASTER! 20% more laps per light cycle.

6' Ft. System **\$99.95**
6' Ft. Extension **\$39.95**

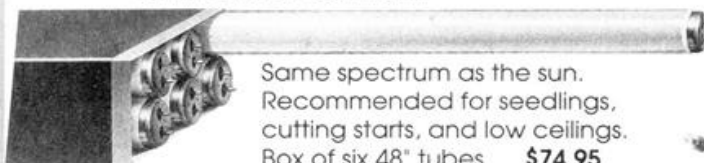


SODIUM CONVERSION BULBS

Simply screw one into your halide fixture for super flowering!



CYLINDERS OF SUNLIGHT™



Same spectrum as the sun.
Recommended for seedlings,
cutting starts, and low ceilings.
Box of six 48" tubes **\$74.95**

940 watt - for 1000 halide **\$137.95**
360 watt - for 400 halide **\$67.95**
220 watt - for 250 halide **\$67.95**
150 watt - for 175 halide **\$67.95**

HYDROFARM CO₂ SYSTEM



- Fertilize the air
 - Double growth and flowering
 - Unique programmable timing
- \$149.95**

CLIMATE CONTROLLER

Automatically activates fans on
humidity or temperature rise!



Climate Controller **\$69.95**
Temperature Controller only **\$39.95**
Humidity Controller only **\$39.95**

Additional grower-proven Hydrofarm products available:

Hydrofarm Grow Nutrient 1lb.	\$12.00	Aspenair Ionizer	\$49.95	45" Vertical Reflectors - no extra charge	
Hydrofarm Bloom Nutrient 1lb.	12.00	Hydrofarm Air Cleaner	99.95	Whirligig 2 - Arm	\$129.95
Cutting Concentrate 2 oz.	7.95	Turbo Air Cleaner	319.95	Sun Circle 1 - Arm	139.95
Cutting Starter Kit	19.95	Vent Fan 140 CFM	44.95	Sun Circle 2 - Arm	199.95
Digital pH Pen Package	59.95	Vent Fan 265 CFM	69.95	Sun Circle 3 - Arm	259.95
Hydrofarm pH Lower 16 oz.	7.95	Vent Fan 465 CFM	89.95	Hydrofarm Light Meter	29.95
Hydrofarm pH Raise 16 oz.	7.95	Wall Mount Osc. Fan	59.95	Rockwool-PLUS MUCH MORE!	
Geolite 5 Gallon Bag	14.95	Mylar 4' x 50' Roll	39.95	*All prices plus shipping	

NEW!
SUPER GROW WING
-UL SERIES™

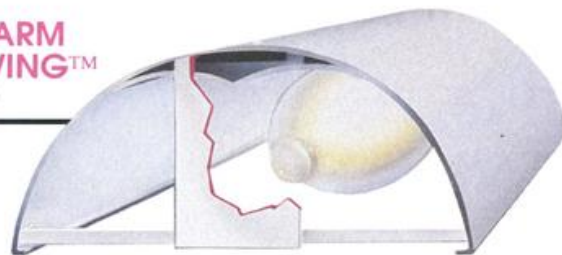


Grow With The Best!

HYDROFARM GROW WING™
(pat. pend.)



BALLAST:
Double-wall steel construction, front and rear bi-level louvers (included with all Grow Wing and Super Grow Wing Systems).



Delivers more light intensity than any other reflector in its class!

- Horizontal system with double parabola design
- Electro-white finish • Strong steel construction
- Safety-First wiring system • High output super bulbs

Our UL SERIES grow lights are the first halides and sodiums to be awarded the UL listing mark for the entire system (ballast, wiring system and reflector). We've made the Super Grow Wing-UL SERIES reflector 20% larger, incorporated a UL-required lens package, a high output super bulb and our UL listed Safety-First wiring and ballast systems. It's the ultimate light for both performance and safety. No other light covers as large an area with greater intensity. Isn't it worth a little more for so much value?

SUPER GROW WING-UL SERIES LIGHTING SYSTEMS

1000 Halide	\$249.95	1000 Sodium	\$319.95
400 Halide	\$199.95	400 Sodium	\$239.95

GROW WING LIGHTING SYSTEMS

1000 Halide	\$199.95	1000 Sodium	\$264.95
400 Halide	\$149.95	400 Sodium	\$189.95

HYDROFARM SUNBURST™

- Horizontal efficiency
- Built-in ballast
- Electro-white finish
- Ready to plug in



150 Sodium	\$109.95
175 Halide	\$109.95
250 Halide	\$129.95
*UL Required lens package - add \$20.00	

HYDROFARM QUANTUM™ (pat. pend.)

Never before has peak performance been offered in such a reliable, easy-to-use system • More Quantums in use today than all other hydroponic systems combined!

- Rockwool medium • Multi-ridge irrigation and aeration system • Grow 20 full-size plants, hundreds of cuttings, or up to 600 starts!
- ✓ Options: Ebb & Flow, Slab, Geolite, and add-on tray packages available.

Nothing extra to buy or build!

Systems include:
Trays, stands, 25 gallon reservoir, cover, pump, irrigation system, Rockwool cubes, nutrients and instructions

NEW! HYDROFARM EBB & FLOW SYSTEM

The ease of Ebb & Flow irrigation manufactured in the rugged and durable tradition of Applied Hydroponics.

- Holds up to 56 large Rockwool cubes, 450 starter cubes or 3 slabs.
- Solid construction - 50% thicker than ordinary trays
- Large 25 gallon reservoir

Super Dome™ Optional

System comes **complete** with:
Tray, reservoir, pump, timer, nutrients, Rockwool cubes, fittings and instructions. **\$189.95**

Ebb & Flow Tray Only **\$49.95**
(42" x 26" x 6"-fittings included)
Super Dome™ Cover **\$44.95**
Makes a 14" tall greenhouse.



Quantum Four Tray	\$199.95
Quantum Six Tray	\$259.95
Quantum Eight Tray	\$319.95
Quantum Ten Tray	\$379.95

QUANTUM TWO TRAY \$179.95



NEW! LIZ'S GARDEN™

- ★ Designed and recommended by **Ed Rosenthal**, famous author and growing expert
- ★ Proven! Featured in his six-part magazine series, 1989
- ★ Compact - measures just 16" x 24"
- ★ Just add seeds and water! **\$49.95**

Only Applied Hydroponics offers:

- ✓ Factories (with showrooms) on both coasts
- ✓ Fastest delivery nationwide
- ✓ New low shipping rates
- ✓ 30 day money-back guarantee
- ✓ Full five-year product guarantee (bulbs, digital pens, one year)

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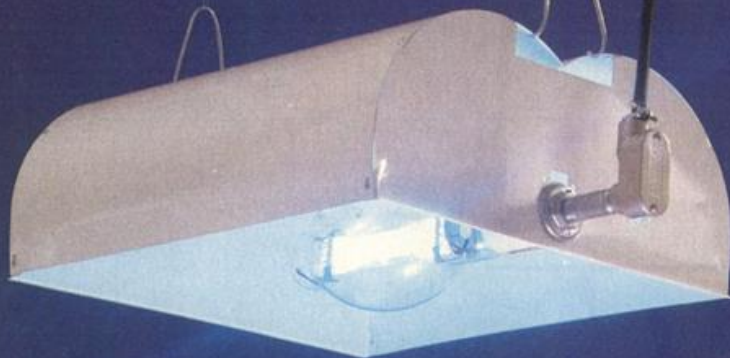


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MAX-89 "THE ULTIMATE HORIZONTAL"
89% increase in light output
 Double Arc, low profile, adjustable, electro-white ▽



Compare Quality & Price
you are saving 5% to 40%

Heavy Duty Ballast ▶
 With 38 cooling louvers



Mini-Horizontal (20"X 10"X 6")
 ◀ Compact Yet Powerful



CO₂ Enrichment System

HAMILTON'S GROW LIGHTS ARE THE NEW #1 IN THE U.S.A.

Only Hamilton has been honored for having its Horizontal Lighting Systems exhibited at the 1988 Hydroponic Society of America convention

A good grow light is the key to your indoor growing success

It is well known that Metal Halide and High Pressure Sodium full spectrum lights, especially in a horizontal system, are the best lights to promote good plant growth and to increase bud and flower production. Fluorescent systems are inefficient and do not give your plants as many light lumens as Metal Halide or High Pressure Sodium.

How to get maximum light output

Hamilton has perfected the ultimate horizontal reflector: **Max 89. The unique double arc "v" design and the super reflective finish of Max 89 give a remarkable 89% increase in light output** over vertical mounted lights. It is not possible to design a reflector that can give more light than Max 89. Its ventilation design assures a longer bulb life. Every Max 89 has an adjustment feature which allows you to regulate light to meet the requirements of your growing area with either more concentrated or more diffused light. Max 89 has a low profile design that actually leaves more vertical space for plant growth.

Percentage of light output increase

Hamilton Technology	89%
Max 89™	
Hamilton Technology	68%
Mini-Horizontal	

Better safe than sorry

Many poorly designed lighting systems become fire hazards with increased use. Hamilton's UL approved heavy-duty, high temperature resistant lamp cords are not only 220° F./600 volt but have an "STO" safety and durability rating. For utmost safety, lamp cords are connected 4" away from the socket in a protective junction box to prevent fire from lamp heat build up.

MH250 Mini-Professional System

The most powerful mini-horizontal on the market (reg. \$148) **Sale \$119.⁹⁵**

Mini-Horizontal MH175 or HPS150

Compact (built-in ballast), powerful & economical. Ideal for small growing areas, side lighting, and cuttings (reg. \$119) **only \$95.⁰⁰**

How to get highest quality products

Our UL approved ballast components are mounted on a heavy 14 gauge steel panel with strong studs to insure whisper-quiet performance and durability. The single heavy panel acts as an excellent heat dissipator, unlike thin, double-walled heat traps that vibrate and echo irritating noise. The 3-way, 38 bi-level louvered enclosure gives maximum cooling air flow for longer ballast life. These louvers give better protection against water splash and dirt entry than screen or slot type systems. Our ballasts come with a rust protective white finish.

Comparison of Ballast Enclosure

Hamilton Technology

38 bi-level louvers, 3 way

Competitor A

12 louvers

Competitor B (no louvers, slot type)

NEW! Conversion HPS Bulbs that work in Metal Halide Systems

Convert your existing Metal Halide System into High Pressure Sodium by simply changing a bulb.

1000w \$134⁹⁵ — 400w \$64⁹⁵ — 175w \$57⁵⁰

Best value at Hamilton

Hamilton offers quality products at the lowest prices. Why should you pay inflated prices for inferior products? Order from our large selection of light and hydroponic systems.

Hamilton's perfect plant nutrients

Great for soil, ideal for hydroponics. All macro/micro elements concentrated formulas; 1lb. makes 100 gal. of nutrient sol.
GROW BOOSTER 20-6-16 For rapid plant growth
BLOOM BOOSTER 9-30-12 Maximum budding/flowering
ROCKWOOL BOOSTER 10-7-16 Formulated for Rockwool
 1lb. . . \$ 9.50 5lb . . . \$26.95 25lb . . . \$75.00

CO₂ Enrichment System

Increasing CO₂ in the air speeds plant growth dramatically and doubles budding and flowering. Fully assembled unit includes: Regulator, Gauge, Solenoid Valve, FlowMeter, Tubing, Instructions. (Timer optional \$7) **Sale \$126⁹⁵**

Satisfaction guaranteed

Order from Hamilton with confidence that our systems are of exceptional quality, performance and value. Our light systems will perform beyond your greatest expectations. We fully guarantee your complete satisfaction with our **30-day money back policy**. Our lighting systems are **guaranteed for 5 years** (bulb 1 year).

HydroRockwool4 System (not shown) . . . \$249.95

Fully automated, simple to operate, easy to maintain
 For use with Rockwool medium, comes complete (cubes for germination & cuttings)
 (Slabs for 12 adult plants)
 Equipped with 12 easy-to-clean non-clogging drip emitters
 Adjustable drip emitters for independent variable irrigation (Control off, low, medium & high volume nutrient sol. flow)
 Includes everything you need:
 reservoir & cover, 4 garden trays, submersible pump, rockwool cubes & slabs, drip emitters, timer, Grow & Bloom nutrients, pH Test Kit, complete instructions

TO ORDER TODAY CALL:

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HAMILTON TECHNOLOGY CORP.
 14902 S. Figueroa St., Gardena, CA 90248

THE SECRET OF SUCCESSFUL INDOOR GROWING

the easy Hamilton way...

Grow bigger, healthier plants faster.

PROVEN RESULTS: Metal halide and high pressure sodium lights create the highest intensity, best quality sun's full spectrum - indoors. Fluorescent systems are weak, inefficient and do not give your plants enough light lumens for good growth and flowering.

COMPARE & SAVE!

Highest quality products at lowest prices

METAL HALIDE: Best for fast plant growth.

MH 1000 Watt Deluxe System (Reg. \$238) **\$179.95**
Choice of 24" Horizontal, 48" Parabolic, or MAX-89 reflector. High quality, assembled, QUIET, ventilated ballast box with GROUNDED 6-OUTLET, ON-OFF CONTROL, 15AMP. PROTECTIVE CIRCUIT BREAKER: 20' lamp cord; high lumen output, 12,000 hr. bulb. (Option: Upgrade to G.E. Multi-Vapor with best spectrum, add \$14.00).

MH 1000 Watt Basic System (Reg. \$182) **\$139.95**
High quality, assembled, QUIET, open ballast; 20' lamp cord; socket; high lumen output, 12,000 hr. bulb. (Option: Upgrade to G.E. Multi-Vapor with best spectrum, add \$14.00)

MH 400 Watt Deluxe System Ideal for small area up to 4'x4' (Reg. \$151) **\$133.95**
24" Horizontal reflector (for MAX-89 or 48" Parabolic add \$9.95). High quality, assembled, QUIET, ventilated ballast box; 20' lamp cord; 36,000 lumen / 20,000 hr. bulb. (Option: Upgrade to G.E. Multi-Vapor with best spectrum add \$10.00).

MH 250 Watt Mini-Professional System For 3'x3' area (Reg. \$148) **\$119.95**
Compact, most powerful mini-horizontal, built-in ballast, 68% more efficient than vertical systems, economical to operate. (HPS 250w Conversion bulb available)

HIGH PRESSURE SODIUM: Increases budding & flowering

HPS 1000 Watt Deluxe System (Reg. \$317) **\$255.95**
Choice of: 24" Horizontal, 48" Parabolic, or MAX-89 reflector. High quality, assembled, QUIET, ventilated ballast box; 20' lamp cord; 5KV socket; 140,000 lumen / 24,000 hr. bulb. Our most powerful light for flowering.

HPS 400 Watt Deluxe System (Reg. \$215) **\$174.95**
24" Horizontal reflector (for MAX-89, or 48" Parabolic add \$9.95). High quality, assembled, QUIET, ventilated ballast box; 20' lamp cord, 50,000 lumen / 24,000 hr. bulb.

MINI-HORIZONTAL: MH 175w OR HPS 150w (Reg. \$119) **\$95.00**
Compact yet powerful, 20"X10"X6", electro-white, built-in ballast, economical to operate.

COMBINATION MH/HPS SYSTEM: Perfectly blended lights

Combo MH 400 / HPS 400 Deluxe System (Reg. \$378) **\$299.00**
MH 400 & HPS 400 bulbs under a 24" Horizontal Reflector; QUIET, remote ballasts. (For MAX-89 reflector add \$9.95) (For Combo MH 1000 / HPS 400 Deluxe add \$69.00).

Combo MH 1000 / HPS 1000 MAX-89 System (Reg. \$542) **\$425.95**
Two 1000w bulbs under MAX-89 reflector; QUIET, remote ballasts, etc. Our best system.

Grounded Light Timer, heavy duty, 15 Amp (Reg. \$20) **\$14.50**

LIGHT MOVERS: More light coverage to grow more plants.

Motorized Lite Track™-Double your light coverage. (Reg. \$99) **\$93.95**
Best single light mover; 6' track; covers up to 8'X10'. (EXTENDER for 2nd light \$38.95)

SunCircle2™-Increases flowering by blending MH&HPS (Reg. \$199) **\$187.95**
Two lights rotate continuously in full circle; coverage: 8'X8' up to 12'X12'.

SunCircle3™-Eliminates hot and dark spots (Reg. \$269) **\$245.00**
Three lights rotate continuously in full circle; coverage: 10'X10' up to 15'X15'.

HYDROPONICS: Our customers say their plant yields are three times greater and two times faster with Hamilton's automated "flood / drain" HYDROPRO system. Roots are provided maximum direct nutrition and aeration without soil. No soil pests, no soil odors, no weeding!

HYDROPRO SINGLE™: Ideal for 4 adult plants; min 2'X2' area (Reg. \$84) **\$68.95**
Includes: pump, grow & bloom nutrients, timer, pH test kit, seed starter, instructions, etc.

HYDROPRO 4™: grow up to 16 adult plants; 3'X9' or 7'X7' area (Reg. \$199) **\$187.95**
Includes: submersible pump, grow & bloom nutrients, timer, pH test kit, Jiffy 7, manual, etc.



HPS BULBS That work in metal halide systems!

1000 Watt (Reg. \$140) **\$134.95** 400 Watt (Reg. \$70) **\$64.95**



CO₂ Enrichment System: Increases growth by 40% (Reg. \$160) **\$126.95**
Includes: Regulator, flow meter, solenoid valve, delivery tubes, manual.



INDOOR GARDENING BOOKLET

With any system purchased

ION GENERATORS: Clean growing area of smoke, odors, pollen & pollutants.

AirEase \$49.95 Pulsair \$96.50 Phase3 for max. odor elimination \$119.00

DIGITAL pH PEN: Instant accurate reading (Reg. \$97) **\$58.95**

DIGITAL Dissolved Solids (Conductivity) PEN (Reg. \$97) **\$58.95**

ROCKWOOL • GROW & BLOOM NUTRIENTS • MYLAR • BULBS •

TIMERS • BLOWERS • GROWING SUPPLIES, etc. Call for Price.

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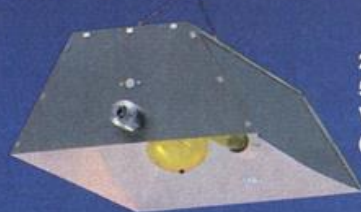
CO₂



AirEase



Pulsair



24" HORIZONTAL:
52% more light than 45"!!
Ventilated, adjustable, electro-white
(24"X20"X10")



MAX-89 "THE ULTIMATE HORIZONTAL"
"DOUBLE ARC" for greatest efficiency,
low profile, adjustable, electro-white

5% TO 40% DISCOUNT
on all regular prices



Motorized 6 foot track



Mini-Horizontal
20"X10"X6"



48" PARABOLIC, Ventilated,
18% more light than 45" cone



Metal Halide



SunCircle2



High Pressure Sodium



Heavy Duty Ballast
With 38 cooling louvers



HydroproSingle



Hydropro4

Why Hamilton's Customers are Satisfied?

- Highest quality products at lowest prices.
- Large inventory with shipment in 24 hours.
- Reliable service and 5 yr. guarantee (bulbs 1 yr.).
- 30 day money back guarantee.
- Local pickup possible/hundreds of locations nationwide.
- Fast C.O.D. delivery by U.P.S. - anywhere.

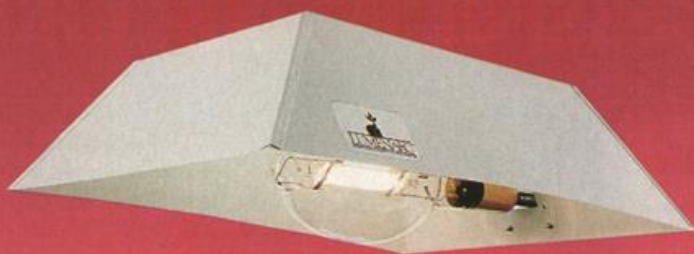
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- 1 Diamonds newly designed LUMENARC™ Horizontals for maximum light distribution.
Large 22" x 27"



LUMENARC™ MINI 12" x 24"



- 2 THE INCREDIBLE AERO-HYDROPONIC RAINFOREST™ system.



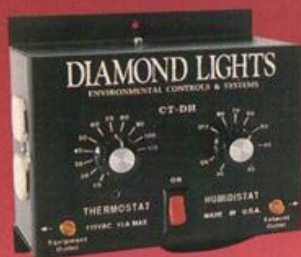
- 3 THE ORIGINAL AQUAFARM™ aerated-drip system.



- 4 DIAMOND EBB & FLOW TABLES—9 sq. ft. of growing space. Fits anywhere.



- 5 SIMEONS ORGANICS—Blended guanos and Earthworm castings.



- 6 Diamond Environmental Control Systems help regulate timers, blowers and CO₂ release.



- 7 Oscillating Wall Fans, Light Meters, Temp Humidity Meters, Digital Testers.



- 8 Complete range of CO₂ emission systems.



- 9 THE CLOSET FARMER™—27 cubic ft. of controlled environment.



- 10 New FLORA ADVANCED NUTRIENT SYSTEM—The finest Hydroponic/soil nutrient in the world.


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DIAMOND LIGHTS AMERICA'S INDOOR GARDEN STORE.

IN TEN YEARS WE'VE LEARNED HOW TO KEEP OUR CUSTOMERS HAPPY.

When you spend your money with Diamond you get good prices, fair shipping rates and a staff of qualified people that know High-Tech gardening. You also get treated like a customer should be treated. You get a **5 year guarantee** on all lighting systems (1 year bulb) and a **no risk 30 day return privilege**. We want to be the best and we think we are.

1 LUMENARC™—Advanced designs in horizontal lighting. Large 22" x 27" size with Double-Arc interior design. Only 8" tall for more useable growing space. 45" Standard or 45" Parabolic hoods also available.
MH1000 (Super bulb) **198.95**
MH400 (Super bulb) **148.95**
HPS1000 **258.95**
HPS400 **188.95**

LUMENARC Mini—The only small horizontal with the Double-Arc interior design. Dimensions: 12" x 24"
MH250 **127.95**
MH175 **108.95**
HPS250 **139.95**
HPS150 **109.95**

2 THE INCREDIBLE RAINFOREST™—Expandable Aero-Hydroponic system. The most advanced and efficient method of hydroponic gardening in the world. Roots cuttings or starts seeds within days and can take them to harvest. Includes Flora nutrients and instructions.
Single Module (6 plants) **64.95**
4 Modules w/Controller (24 plants) .. **279.95**
6 Modules w/Controller (36 plants) .. **389.95**
8 Modules w/Controller (48 plants) .. **489.95**
10 Modules w/Controller (60 plants) .. **599.95**
12 Modules w/Controller (72 plants) .. **699.95**

3 THE ORIGINAL AQUAFARM™—Reliable aerated-drip pumping system. Perfect for tall mother plants as well as short plants. Includes Flora nutrients and instructions.
Single Module **58.00**
4 Modules w/Controller **199.95**
6 Modules w/Controller **279.95**
8 Modules w/Controller **369.95**
10 Modules w/Controller **449.95**
12 Modules w/Controller **529.95**

4 DIAMOND EBB & FLO Tables—3' x 3' (9 sq. ft.) tray with 30 gallon reservoir. This system is expandable and can use either Rockwool or GroRox medium. 36 cuttings or 12 full-sized plants.
Complete system **179.95**
Or buy parts and pieces for DO-IT-YOURSELF.

5 SIMEONS ORGANICS—Super Tea for growth, Budswell for flowering. The finest Bat and Seabird guanos blended and sifted together with Earthworm castings to produce a completely pure and potent organic fertilizer. Comes in dry powder or liquid.

6 DIAMOND ENVIRONMENTAL CONTROLS—Finally, the answer to coordinating CO₂ and exhaust fans. Set temperature and humidity to desired levels and the control does the rest. When exhaust fans come on, CO₂ automatically shuts off. **79.95**

7 Wall mounted oscillating fan 16" **SALE 49.95**
Light Meter (Not shown) **SALE 24.95**
Digital pH Meter (Not shown) **SALE 49.95**
PPM Meter (Not shown) **SALE 49.95**
Springfield Temp/Humidity Meter **SALE 12.95**

8 Our best CO₂ emission system has a short range timer that allows you to run as low as 1 minute on/off times. **179.95**
The AquaCulture CO₂ system with no timer. Comes on with your lights and off with your lights. (Not shown) **119.95**
Green-Air CO₂ generators are completely automatic and run on propane or natural gas.
CD3 (300 sq. ft.) (Not shown) .. **SALE 199.95**
CD6 (800 sq. ft.) **SALE 279.95**

9 CLOSET FARMER™—27 cubic ft. of growing space. Completely self-contained growing chamber **THAT WORKS**. Comes with everything you'll need. (Assembly required.) **439.00**

10 FLORA ADVANCED NUTRIENT SYSTEM—For growers who will accept only the best, this nutri-

ent is by far the finest hydroponic/soil nutrient in the world. It is so pH stable that adjustment is rarely necessary. Stepped up growth rates, larger yields and better quality of yield have all been characteristics of this amazing 2 part nutrient.

Diamond products can also be found at the following retail locations:

CALIFORNIA

Foothill Hydroponics 818-760-0688
10705 Burbank Blvd., N. Hollywood 91601

Hahn Lighting 408-295-1847
945 S. 3rd Street, San Jose 95112

Coming Soon: Mendocino Indoor Garden Center, Auburn, CA

FLORIDA

Florida Indoor Growers Supply 305-267-0806
7203 S.W. 40th Street, Miami 33155

NEW YORK

MAH 516-231-9472
151 Alkier St., Brentwood, NY 11717

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Most money order, credit card, COD orders shipped within 24 hrs.
Prices do not include shipping.
Dealer inquiries welcome.
CA residents add 6% sales tax.
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HASH BASH

I just finished reading "Hash Bash '89" by Buford Bosko (July '89) and I'm totally inspired! I'm a 20-year-old anglo-American rasta punk rocker, and six months ago I joined the army to fight for freedom and liberty. Well, as you can guess, it didn't turn out that way. Thanks for the psychedelic bus ride and tell everyone to keep smoking in the name of freedom.

--Pvt. Ras Bob w/H.T.I.
South Bay, San Diego

The July '89 issue of HIGH TIMES caused me to do something I rarely do: write my congressmen and the President. Thank you HIGH TIMES.

--The Patriot
Dikeville, KY

Thanks for keeping up the fight for one of the most important freedoms that the government is depriving us of. The July issue really helped me out of a low point of depression. I recently joined the army and the bullshit they're trying to drive into my head is crazy. It's funny how just looking at your magazine can take me away from this place back to my friends in Illinois. Keep up the fight.

--Lost in the Army
Baltimore, MD

DC SMOKE-IN

I recently attended my first smoke-in on July 4th in Washington DC and I loved it! The speeches were great. The bands were good, but Chef Ra and the Soul Assassins were the best. They obviously play from the heart. The rain didn't dampen my time and it made my hubby's even better (he loves wet tees). Thanks HIGH TIMES, I love you all!

--M.C.
Johnstown, PA

POLYMERS

I used the polymers described by Dr. Zee in the December '89 issue and I'm very pleased with the results (wow!). Yet another helpful article from your informative and interesting mag. Looking forward to more grow tips in future issues.

--"Koala King"
Vista, CA

LETTERS

Send your gripes, questions, personal thoughts, and occasional compliments to: HIGH TIMES "Letters," 211 East 43rd Street, NYC 10017. Unless otherwise indicated, proper names are printed with initials only to protect the innocent, so sign your favorite pseudonym. And use a phony return address.

CHRIS AND GREG

After reading about Chris and Greg's Ultimate NORMLthon Party in the July issue, I had to write to tell about our NORML party. We had a fantastic bash in April. Several weeks prior to the party date, we mailed out invitations with our own political editorial. We included all the necessary info and explained that each person needed to contribute \$10 to the cause. A couple of days before the party, we went to the local print shop and copied a series of articles into a booklet. The day of the party, we took a thick, 12-inch bud and placed it in a glass case. As each person came in and donated, we gave them a slip of paper with a number on it, putting an identical number in a jar. After dinner, we drew the lucky winner. (You should have seen her face!) We raised \$180 and had a great time. So Chris and Greg, make way for "The Pups" Ultimate NORML party. Maybe next year we can have a fundraising competition.

--Pup 1 and Pup 2
Louisville, KY

NYC SMOKE-IN

Let's set a couple of facts straight in regard to the May 6th Smoke-In in New York City (July '89, page 20). The statement that Jerry the Peddler's march to Central Park represented those who go to pot protests just to smoke and hang out, as opposed to Dana Beal's people, who go to express political views, is a lie. People in Jerry's contingent have incurred over 100 busts during the ongoing struggles in Tompkins Square and Washington Square Parks. We chose to call our event in Central Park the Abbie Hoffman Memorial Smoke-In in honor of the man who inspired our style of activism. We reject Dana Beal's single-issue lobbying focus.

--The Fifth Ave. Pot Parade Committee
Loisaida, New York

It's unfortunate that petty infighting has pretty much destroyed the movement in New York. Instead of whining about Dana Beal you two should look for common ground. Which brings us to the next letter:

GESTAPO SUCKS

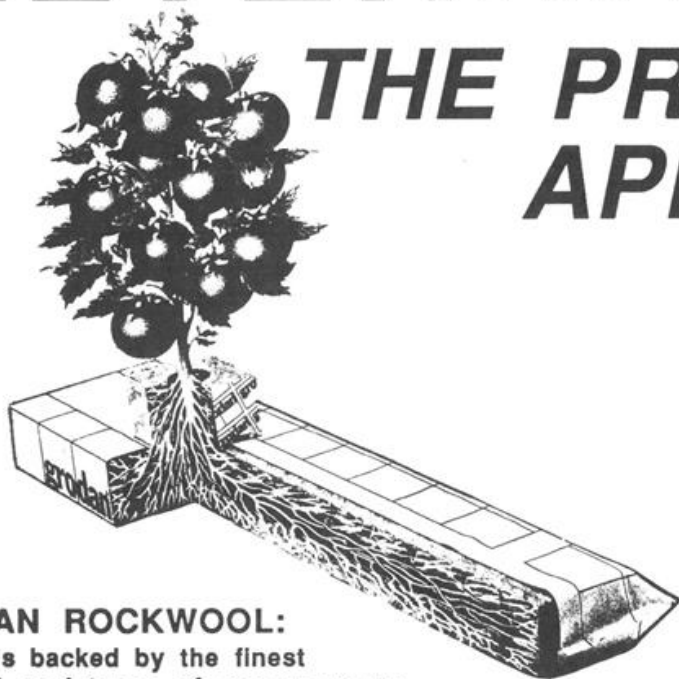
I was in prison when Tom Forçade began publishing HIGH TIMES, and it was there that I read the very first issues. I have read it ever since, through good times and bad. But with the August issue, I am so disgusted that I am canceling my subscription because of your article about a "fun-loving guy" who calls himself Jimmy Gestapo and dresses in a Confederate uniform. The Gestapo were Hitler's secret police--killers, sadists, torturers, ruthless enforcers of the Nazi police state. The Confederate uniform represents the attempt by the southern states to secede from the Union and establish an independent nation based on human slavery. You have insulted your readers, discredited yourselves, and hurt the cause of marijuana legalization by taking symbols of slavery and lumping them with the sacred herb. You ought to apologize to your readers for printing this obscenity.

--Oliver Steinberg
St. Paul, MN

Jimmy Gestapo is not a Nazi, as was made clear in the article. He is the lead singer of a hardcore band that writes and performs songs about the benefits of marijuana. Although many musicians use cannabis, Gestapo is one of the few with guts enough to be up-front about it. To dismiss him based entirely on his last name is like dismissing the Grateful Dead because their name promotes death. The Confederate uniform appeared because of an accompanying article concerning a Civil War battle won by the Confederates with the help of barricades made from hemp. The uniform was our idea, not Jimmy's. And it was certainly not intended as a symbol of slavery. So, we're sorry you took it that way. But really Ollie, do you think you have right to excommunicate anyone from the movement or from the pages of HIGH TIMES based solely on your own idea of what is "sacred" or "obscene?" That attitude sounds a lot more like fascism than anything Gestapo said in his interview.

continued on page 76

ALTERNATIVE GARDEN SUPPLY



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Best Regards,
David



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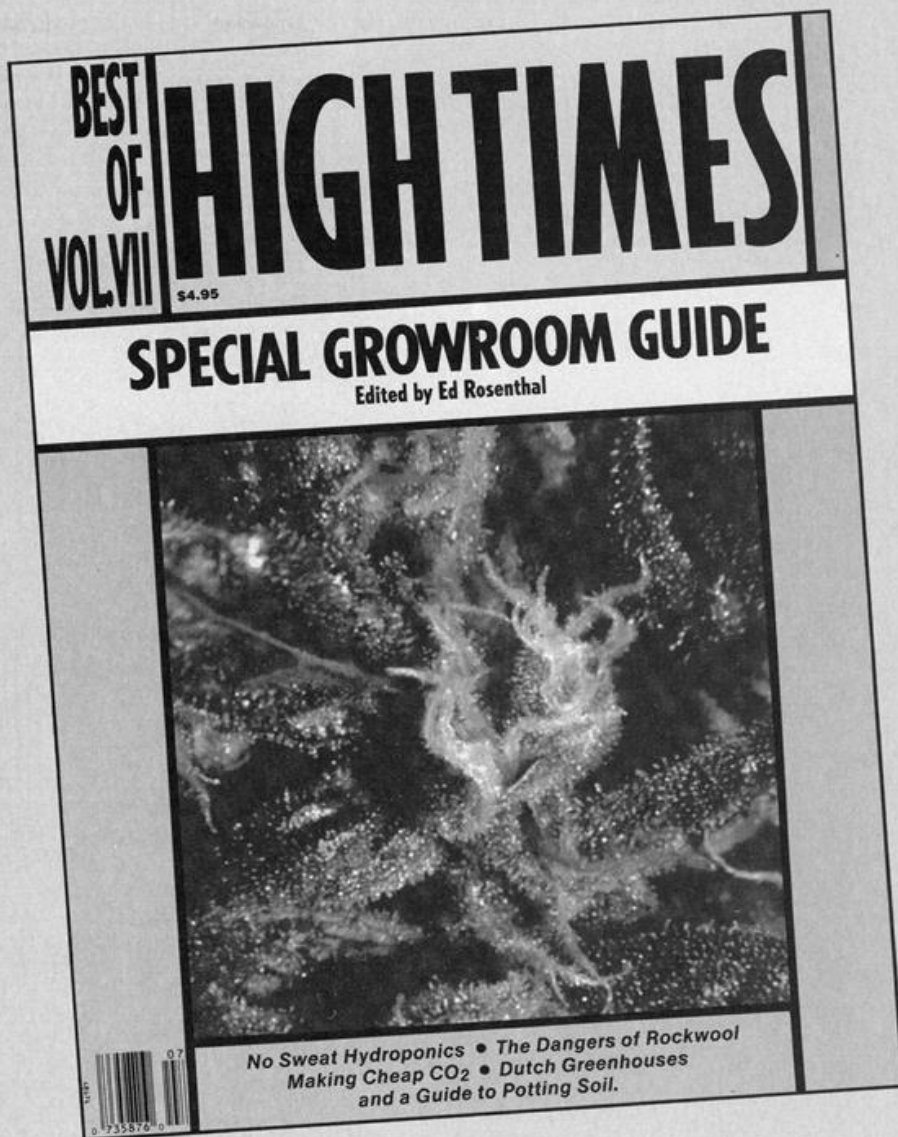
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"The first time I marched in Madison, I was totally unprepared for the emotions that overtook me...a tremendous cathartic release was unleashed from the depths of my soul."

--Ed Hassle
HIGH TIMES January 1989



THE GREATER MIDWEST HARVEST FESTIVAL IS COMING!!

Join Chef Ra and the Freedom Fighters as they attend the annual pot protest in Madison, Wisconsin, on Sept. 30th. Founded by Ben Masel (HIGH TIMES counterculture hero of the year) this rally is the largest of its kind in America. Last year, over 15,000 attended. Please show your support for the cannabis protest movement by joining us this year. The demonstration begins at noon at the Library Mall and includes a free rock concert with the Soul Assassins and other bands. The concert is followed by a brief march to the State Capitol.



OCTOBER 1989

NO. 170

HIGHWITNESS NEWS

THE BENNETT REPORT: READ IT AND WEEP

The "National Drug Control Strategy" was delivered to Congress by the Drug Bizarre, William Bennett, on September 5th. HIGH TIMES received a "draft" of the strategy report, dated July 31, 1989. Below are excerpts from the report that should most concern HIGH TIMES readers:

THINKING ABOUT DRUGS AND PUBLIC POLICY

Legalizing drugs would be an unqualified national disaster. In fact, *any* significant relaxation of drug enforcement—for whatever reason, however well-intentioned—would promise more

use, more crime and more trouble for treatment and education efforts.

We must avoid the easy temptation to blame our troubles first on those chronic problems of social environment—like poverty and racism—which help to breed and spread the contagion of drug use. We have been fighting such social ills for decades; we need not—and cannot—sit back and wait for that fight to be won for good. The simple problem with drugs is painfully obvious: too many Americans still use them. And so the highest priority of our drug policy must be a stubborn determination...

CRIMINAL JUSTICE--FEDERAL RESPONSIBILITIES

Another target of intensified Federal action should be the intolerable boom in domestically grown marijuana, which now accounts for 25 percent of the world market. Domestic cultivation of what is often potent marijuana takes place indoors and on private and Federal land, where it is frequently protected by explosives and booby-traps. At a few National Parks and Forests, hikers are warned not to stray from designated areas for fear that they could be injured by one of these devices. The DEA, along with the National Parks Service, the Bureau of Land Management, aided by units of the National Guard, will increase levels of enforcement in this area through more sophisticated eradication efforts and wider use of investigative techniques...

BUSTING BILL: YOU BLEW IT

by Jon Gettman

William Bennett's lengthy proposal for a national drug control strategy amounts to this: he wants more narcs.

Spiro Agnew, Richard Nixon's Vice-President, once accused the drug culture of brainwashing the country's youth. By the drug culture, he meant all those anti-war hippies who smoked pot and listened to Beatle music. Anti-drug policy was basically this: bust some heads, knock down a few doors and teach those hoodlums some respect for the law.

In the '70s, cooler heads began to prevail. Numerous national commissions in the US, Canada and Great Britain advocated reforms which became known as decriminalization, and police and government became more concerned with punishing drug sales than drug use. By backing away from decriminalization, the Reagan administration made illegal drug sales more profitable in the '80s.

The reemergence of a crises atmosphere surrounding street drug markets has prompted all observers to agree that the emphasis on law enforcement during the last eight years hasn't controlled the problem. While this realization has caused some to renew interest in reform proposals, including legalization, Bennett has taken a more reactionary view.

Gabriel Nahas and his followers have long advocated the massive quarantine of drug users (they favor hanging drug offenders like they do in Malaysia and Iran) based on his contagion theory. Bennett hasn't fully embraced Nahas'

goal, but he seems to be heading in that ugly direction. Many of his suggestions have an ominous, extremist ring to them, such as forced commitment of drug addicts to drug rehabilitation, detention camps for first-time drug offenders and "resistance training" for children. Many of these tactics risk court challenges. Other suggestions, like getting states to impose drug tests as a condition of receiving a driver's license, contradict states' rights to determine their own affairs. Tactics such as these are easily exposed for what they are—excessive measures inconsistent with a democratic society.

Bennett reasons that since we can't keep illegal drugs from crossing the border, we can disrupt the drug trade by focusing on protecting communities from open drug sales; the reallocation of resources in this direction is one of the few aspects of Bennett's proposal which deserve applause.

As far as pot is directly concerned, Bennett calls for a major reduction of marijuana grown in the United States. To spite him, marijuana growers will increase domestic production. Bennett's pot proposal does nothing but enhance the profit in the marijuana market, especially if he upgrades the attack on foreign-grown marijuana.

While William Bennett, truly our drug bizarre, rolls up his sleeves to slap a few potheads around, American marijuana growers and smokers will continue rolling up something else long after Bush and Bennett are gone. ●

THE WORKPLACE

Employers will be encouraged to...provide for identifying employees who use drugs, including testing where appropriate.

The Drug-Free Workplace Act regulations will be revised to make clear that drug-testing may be included in workplace plans of Federal contractors and grantees.

Other technological developments, such as the analysis of hair samples rather than urine, may offer less intrusive screening methods for drug-use.

OBJECTIVES

Ten-year goal: 50 percent reduction in the estimates of the amount [tons] of marijuana...entering the United States; 50 percent reduction in the number of people reporting that marijuana...[is] easy to obtain. Two-year goal: 10 percent reduction in the estimates of the amount [tons] of...marijuana...entering the United States; 10 percent reduction in the number of people reporting that...marijuana...[is] easy to obtain.

Our efforts to reduce the supply of illegal drugs...are undermined by the fact that the US grows huge amounts of marijuana within its own borders...In some states marijuana is said to be the major cash crop. We cannot expect other countries to take the efforts they need to take in order to reduce the production of illegal drugs within their borders

continued on page 29

PARTNERSHIP FOR A DRUG-FREE AMERICA'S POT SMOKESCREEN

by Jon Gettman

Ads function as the myths of popular culture. So when we see a television commercial in which a surgeon is smoking marijuana in an operating room, then giggling as he wonders if he can make a straight incision on a wide awake patient, we know better than to accept this subjective viewpoint as the truth.

The Partnership for a Drug-Free America created this ad and many others like it. PDFA was formed in 1987 by the American Association of Advertising Agencies to attack attitudes that suggest illegal drug use is a normal, legitimate activity. Nearly three years into their campaign, the Partnership has about 70 television commercials, 120 print ads and 40 radio spots with which to fill \$150 million a year in donated advertising space. PDFA plans to allocate \$1 million a day in TV advertising time over the next three years.

"Our primary function is prevention of first use," says Teresa Grant, public relations director for the Partnership. "Stopping children from trying drugs for the first time. We also target parents to alert them to signs of drug abuse, and to show how to initiate dialogues with their children, and health care professionals to assist them in diagnosing, treating or getting patients into treatment."

PDFA's "Brainwaves" ad contrasts a 14-year-old's EEG reading of brain activity after marijuana smoking to show that "if you use pot you're not using your brain." Other ads imply that marijuana use causes brain damage. According to research studies published by the National Academy of Sciences in 1982 and by the *International Journal of the Addictions* in 1986, pot smoking does not cause such damage.

Grant confirms that PDFA works with "the general knowledge that is available." They regularly consult experts, though primarily ones in the treatment field, whose exposure to marijuana is through people with other substance-abuse problems. In their perspective, marijuana is viewed as a threat to young people's development.

"We really feel that when nobody wants to try illegal drugs anymore, there no longer will be a market," Grant explains. "All these other efforts--interdiction, building bigger prisons--just affect the symptoms of the real problem. But until you are able to assist people to look at life drug-free, the problem is not going to go away, no matter how many prisons you build. That's what we've been trying to do for many years, and it hasn't worked."

The Partnership has received complaints from NORML activists and others. The PDFA doesn't care whether people like their ads, but they claim to care if the ads are factual. Grant says the Partnership would pull an ad "if there is serious evidence that controverts it--factual information we can look at and deal with and say 'this is wrong, let's pull the ad.'"

"We're not out to spread alarming propaganda," she adds. "We're not trying to scare people straight. We don't think that's necessarily the way to go."

In a way, the Partnership represents a de-

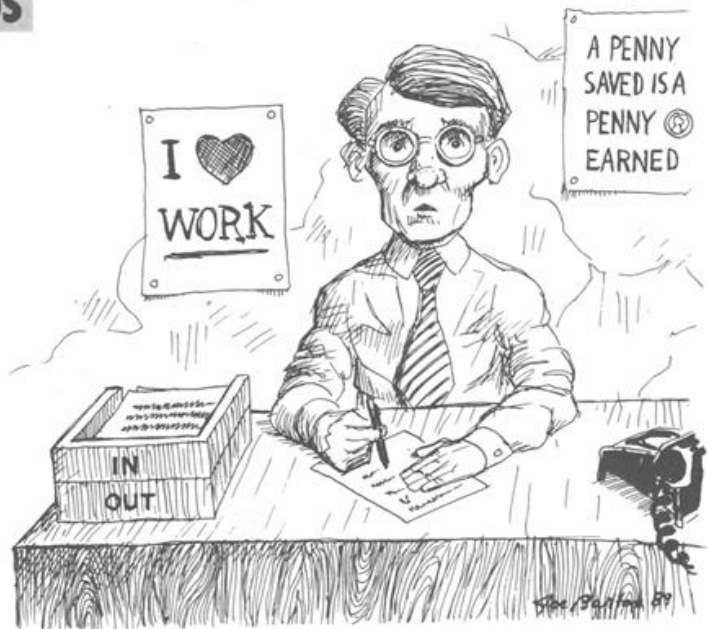
parture from the anti-drug crusades of the past. The ads don't recommend jailing drug users and stay away from stereotyping users as horrible people. Also, unlike previous crusades, this is a private effort, out of the Federal government's control. Grant responded emphatically when asked if the government dictates the content of PDFA's ads. "Absolutely not," she said.

In fact, the Partnership's ads almost make a good argument for why drugs should be legal. They imply that the criminal justice system is irrelevant to attitudes about drug abuse treatment. Their rejection of "Just Say

No" and of celebrity testimonials is not only an implicit criticism of anti-drug efforts during the Reagan years, but also of a maturing outlook which hopefully will continue to grow.

However, PDFA's ads will continue to outrage responsible, adult marijuana smokers, though perhaps no more so than anti-cigarette ads outrage tobacco smokers or, for that matter, the way that sexist ads outrage feminists. These are commercials, after all, and growing up in America should confer a certain immunity to them. However, there are grounds for criticizing them on the basis of factual errors. The next time you see the "Brainwaves" ad, remember that it's there and more are coming. Then change the channel--and write the network and tell them why you did. ●

BARTOS



You know about his good work, but do you know about his coffee, beer and cigarettes?

Sure, he looks like a model worker... but could bad habits be stealing valuable time and efficiency? Relaxing with a "frosty one" after work may seem harmless, but studies have indicated that too much relaxation may contribute to lack of on-the-job concentration. All those cigarettes and coffee breaks take time away from work and can lead to a "burned-out" attitude. So, next time you see a "good" employee, take a second look.

The Partnership for a Paranoid America

ONE WOMAN'S DOPPE

FINDING A CURE FOR CRACK

by Maia Szalavitz

Americans are always looking for a cure, for an easy answer-- a quick fix. This is one of the main reasons we have such a huge drug problem and why crack has created such a crisis.

Last issue, I looked at the failure of methadone to really address the heroin problem. Looking at addiction as a problem with a single drug--rather than as a problem with escaping from life in general--simply does not work.

So what can be done to treat crack addicts? How can those who have crossed the "invisible line" into coke addiction be helped?

There are many methods of treating addiction. The best way to understand them is to divide treatment into two phases: the early acute phase when the physico-chemical symptoms of withdrawal are the most pronounced and the later phase when subjective "psychological" symptoms cause the most trouble.

For too long, addiction treatment has emphasized treating the first phase, the physical symptoms. People have thought, for example, that heroin addicts continue to shoot up because they fear the withdrawal symptoms. They may employ that excuse when questioned about continued use, but Dr. Michael Smith, who treats all kinds of addiction with acupuncture at Lincoln Hospital in the Bronx, says, "If you ask a using addict why they use drugs you will get the wrong answer. They have no language to express what drugs do for them."

Most addiction treatments have been based on trying to treat the disease as if withdrawal was what was being avoided. This fallacy forms part of the rationale for methadone maintenance. With crack, this idea has received much criticism--there just isn't any easily definable withdrawal syndrome.

With heroin and other opiates, addicts deprived of drugs will experience sweating, nervousness, insomnia, dilated pupils, chills, leg cramps, aches and pains, vomiting and nausea. Addicts will experience extreme depression and craving for drugs, but these are most profound *after the physical sickness has past*. During physical withdrawal, addicts are aware of what drugs have done to them. But they are in greater danger of going back to drugs when they feel better than when actually dopesick (if they are attempting to quit of their own volition, and not because of coercion).

With crack, however, the main and sometimes only symptom of withdrawal is craving. Physical symptoms here are largely a result of the bodily neglect that takes place in advanced crack addiction. Crack addicts at this stage do not eat, sleep, bathe or take care of anything, other than making sure they can get high.

Smith says that the key to early treatment is dealing with this craving. "The body must

be looked at as a system," he says. "Instead of focusing on one neurotransmitter, like dopamine for cocaine and endorphins for heroin, look at the whole system, which is out of balance in all addictions. Craving is a complex response that has to do with stress, perception, learning, environment, memory. It really doesn't matter--what matters is that acupuncture helps craving."

Smith, the foremost advocate of acupuncture treatment for addictions, says the best indicator of success is to ask, on the third day of acupuncture treatment, whether the patient feels that acupuncture has helped ease the craving. If the answer is yes, it's likely that three months later--assuming the patient continues in the program--the addict will be drug-free.

Acupuncture seems to be more successful than other physical or chemical treatments in keeping addicts clean during early recovery. The statistics for acupuncture treatment show that about 50 percent of Smith's patients have kept clean for two months or longer after treatment. His patients are mostly court-referred, which means they are not likely to be what rehab centers define as

and Narcotics Anonymous meetings. While in rehab, the patient is not permitted to leave the premises unescorted.

Therapeutic communities--these offer an 18-month treatment consisting of confrontational therapy. In the last phases, the patients are allowed to leave freely.

Outpatient groups/psychotherapy. Alcoholics Anonymous/Narcotics Anonymous.

The problem with the statistics generated by these therapies is that almost all available figures come from research done by people who have a stake in the type of treatment they are studying. In other words, there is very little independent research being done.

Rehabilitation centers claim that one out of every 37 patients treated will stay clean for the rest of their lives. Therapeutic communities claim that 92 percent of addicts treated stay clean for 18 months, but that figure only reflects the fact that patients live inside the drug-free community. There is little information on the efficacy of individual or out-patient therapy--generally it seems to be not very effective without participation in AA or NA.

The only method that seems to work over the long-term--and about which there are very few statistics (since they are anonymous programs)--are the "Twelve Step Programs." These include Alcoholics Anonymous, and Narcotics Anonymous, which have helped millions of people stay clean and sober for years. An AA membership survey done in 1986 shows that among a 7,000-member sample, the average time sober was 52 months--almost 4.5 years. Of this sample 38 percent were addicted to both drugs and alcohol. For those who still think that cocaine treatment is different from other addiction treatment, research done in Georgia in 1987, published in the *Journal of the Medical Association of Georgia*, found no significant difference between the number of people who stayed clean following inpatient treatment for cocaine or alcohol.

For long-term treatment, and for a return to a normal, healthy and happy life, nothing other than twelve-step programs has had any kind of success. Sixty percent of the people questioned in that AA survey had some kind of prior counseling or treatment to get them into the program, but it was only the program that kept them away from drugs or alcohol in the long run.

Acupuncture seems to be the best and cheapest way of getting crack addicts clean and into twelve-step programs. It allows those who can't afford rehab to get free enough from the craving to begin going to meetings. Says Dr. Smith, "The patients I have success with, who I have speak for me in support of the program, talk more about AA or NA than they do about acupuncture. It gets them to the point where they are willing and able to recover through the twelve-step program. Acupuncture is their entry and foundation, an open door for those who don't have a social network in place. It gives access to recovery to anybody."

Next month: *Coming Back from Crack.* ●



BERNADETTE TUASON

"Craving is a complicated response. What matters is acupuncture helps craving."

—Dr. Michael Smith

"well-motivated." In addition, Smith's patients are not locked up--they are out there and dealing with their daily lives.

The most prevalent types of early treatment are the following:

Rehabilitation centers--these offer a 30-day treatment consisting of group and individual therapy and Alcoholics Anonymous

PEACE & LOVE, POGUES-STYLE

by Judy McGuire

The Pogues blend traditional Gaelic folk music with just about every other type of music in existence--from big band jazz to the razor-sharp anger of punk. It all melts together to form a churning, swirling, melodic storm of sound.

"It's a reaction. Everything's turning to shit--I don't think it does any harm to try and promote a little bit of harmony," says tin whistle player and occasional vocalist, Spider Stacy, on why the band chose to name their new album *Peace and Love*. When asked about this new direction for the band, Shane MacGowan--lead singer and chief songwriter--added, "We've always been going in that direction. Most of us are ex-hippies or ex-punks."

Spider goes on to say, "Absolutely nothing wrong with hippies. After all, they had the right idea, they just wanted everybody to have a good time and get on with one another--I, for one, can't see anything wrong with that."

The psychedelic movement has enjoyed a big comeback, especially in London, over the past two years with the emergence of acid house. Club-goers take a hit of ecstasy or acid and dance to the stripped-bare disco beat of house music. "I'm pretty sure people's minds got altered at the height of it," Shane explains. "Same as former hippies--people whose minds got altered at the height of it--they never stop thinking like that. They're more broad-minded, more imaginative, more loving--into getting out of it."

While a lot of rock stars, like steel-stomached pop-wench Sheena Easton and Jack LaLanne's man of the year, Glenn Frey, are embracing the fitness craze--traveling with exercise machines and personal trainers--the Pogues just wanna have fun



BETH B

POGUESPEAK: Shane MacGowan (middle) says, "The physical fitness thing has gone too far. You don't get physically fit running up the bloody street every morning and night." Also pictured: Darryl Hunt (left), Jem Finer (right).

and enjoy themselves. "I think this physical fitness stuff has gone too far," says MacGowan, taking a hit off a Lark cigarette. "It probably hinders you a bit to drink and smoke, but you can still be fucking healthy. I'm really healthy. You don't get physically fit running up the bloody street every morning or night."

Peace and Love was produced by Steve Lillywhite, who also produced the previous Pogues album, *If I Should Fall From Grace With God*. Lillywhite is best known for his work with mega-wimp-rockers U2. Working with such a well known producer was nothing new for this band--their last producer was Elvis Costello. This previous collaboration earned both parties lots of attention, but

it also cost the Pogues their bass player, Cait O'Riordan, who left to marry Costello. Why no further collaborations? "They don't seem to want to talk to us, I don't know why," laughs Spider. "Maybe it's because we keep saying how fat Elvis is in interviews."

The Pogues have a reputation for being drunks, which probably comes from their false image as an Irish band (in fact, only two are Irish). MacGowan explains, "I think people made the obvious connection: they play Irish music, they drink a lot." He says the Pogues probably drink no more than your average rock & roll band.

Are they being stereotyped? "No, if you want to follow that logic," MacGowan says, "then every American is a crack addict." ●

OIL ALONG THE WATCHTOWER

by Lou Stathis

The Exxon Valdez oil spill disaster that occurred last March was our Chernobyl. Just like that 1986 failure of half-assed nuclear technology, the dumping of 11 million gallons of bubbling crude into Alaska's Prince William Sound was an accident just waiting to happen. Rapacious petrochemical giant Exxon (who reported \$5.3 billion in profits last year) had been cruising these wildlife-rich waters for years--cranked on a volatile high-octane blend of greed, arrogance and over-confidence--before the silly incompetence of a single ship's captain and his dubiously qualified crew brought the whole mess gushing out.

Exxon's big boys had been telling local fishermen, lawmakers and environmentalists for 12 years, as they surreptitiously dismantled their oil spill SWAT teams and lobbied fiercely against changes in tanker safety legislation, "No problem here." Also brought to light recently was the documented record of Valdez captain Joseph Hazelwood as a dangerous, drunken ship's master--dating all the way back to 1982.

According to second mate Bruce Amero, who served on two tankers with Hazelwood, shipboard alcohol abuse and delegation of near-port navigation duties to unqualified third mates were standard operating procedures with Captain Hazelwood. Needless to say, the higher-ups Amero continually reported such activity to did absolutely nothing about it.

HIGH-SCI

Exxon's lack of corporate responsibility continued compounding after the spill, when their bumbling, inadequate cleanup campaign took its time getting going. None of the requisite equipment or qualified personnel was on hand, Coast Guard assistance was spurned and Exxon honchos announced totally bogus "results" while praying for rain in a desperate search for excuses. They did, however, remember to jack up wholesale oil prices in anticipation of the "shortage" the spill would be blamed

for and the hundreds of millions of dollars they'd have to spend to mop the mess up. So after 12 years of banking mega-profits from the Alaska oil bonanza, they fuck up and expect us to pay for it.

What's to be done about all this? A boycott of all Exxon products has been called for, and it seems a good enough idea (even if some unfortunate middle-guys--innocent station franchise owners--get caught in the squeeze). But more importantly, oil transportation safety has to be drastically overhauled. All tankers must be fitted with double hulls (the way nuclear reactors are required to have containment vessels), near-port navigation must be subject to stricter rules and supervision (the way airports have radar oversight and Federally-trained traffic controllers) and perhaps alternate means of oil transport should be investigated (a pipeline carrying Alaskan oil all the way down to the lower 48 was shot down in favor of the pipe-and-tanker route in 1973, after fierce oil-lobby pressure). Most importantly, we've got to cut down hydrocarbon consumption by finding cleaner alternative fuels, more efficient modes of power production and a less gluttonous lifestyle. The time to start is now. ●



by Mary Lynn Mathre

NORML-IZER

THE MYTHS OF MARIJUANA

Bring up the subject of marijuana among a group of "responsible" citizens and watch a room go quiet. If you are going to talk about marijuana in public, you'd better have something negative to say or say nothing at all. Say a few positive words about marijuana and you have just identified yourself as one of those "pro-drug" people. And being "pro-drug" in the "drug-free America" climate of today is almost tantamount to an act of treason.

This month's column will take a look at some of the more common marijuana myths currently being passed around, but first, I must challenge two of the popular terms referred to above: the concept of being "pro-drug" and that of a "Drug-Free America."

Pro-drug: this is a derogatory term used by some partisans of the "War on Drugs" to describe people who are not "anti-drug" like they are. It is a total misnomer. Pro-drug is simply a term created to stir the emotions of those who fear illegal drugs.

Drug-free America: Another play on words. No society in the history of mankind has ever been drug-free (free of psychoactive drugs). If we were to have a drug-free America, which drugs would we be free of? Only the illegal ones that the government has decided are "bad"? What about alcohol, nicotine or prescription drugs? The next time someone advocates a drug-free society ask them if they have given up coffee or chocolate, both of which contain caffeine.

Now for some marijuana myths:

There are _____ million regular marijuana users in the US. The exact number has been left blank because, depending on what source you use, you will get a different figure, usually ranging from 20 to 60 million. As the US escalates its War on Drugs with the "Just Say No" campaign, the "drug-free America" goal and an increasing amount of urine testing (with an emphasis on punishing the "user"), who in their right minds are going to admit to illegal drug use in a so-called anonymous survey?

In 1985, NORML allowed me to conduct a survey of its membership in order to find out, among other things, whether pot smokers would admit marijuana use to a doctor or nurse. Fearful that their marijuana use would be revealed, only 32.7 percent stated that they might disclose this information to a medical profession and 8.4 percent said they never would.

These figures come from a group of marijuana users who are probably more willing to disclose their marijuana use (by virtue of their membership in NORML) than

the average marijuana user. For many citizens, the stakes are high if their marijuana use ever becomes known, thus the likelihood of getting reliable responses regarding use is questionable. Since a significant portion of US citizens consume marijuana on a regular basis, the figures we see based on government surveys are probably too low.

Today's marijuana is much stronger, therefore more dangerous. It has been reported that today's marijuana is at least 10 times stronger than the marijuana of the '60s and '70s, and therefore we can expect to see a significant increase in health consequences and abuse potential. This claim has been effectively challenged by T.H. Mikuriya and M.R. Aldrich in their research published in the *Journal of Psychoactive Drugs*, titled "Cannabis 1988: Old Drug, New Dangers--the Potency Question."



Records show that marijuana used for medicinal purposes (in extracts and tinctures) in the 19th century was much stronger in terms of THC percentage than current sinsemilla. Records also show that sinsemilla cultivation occurred in the 19th century.

Another flaw in the low-potency argument regarding '60s and '70s pot is that many of the studies done to determine THC content were conducted on marijuana which was legally confiscated and stored at room temperatures. When stored at room temperature, THC will oxidize to cannabinol at a rate of 10 percent a month. Thus, depending on time of harvest and storage conditions, the measured potency may be significantly lower than when "fresh." Therefore, the levels of THC content reported would have been lower than what

was actually consumed.

In terms of overdose risk, high-potency marijuana is still an extremely benign drug compared to many common medicines. To consume a lethal dose, a person would have to smoke 1,500 pounds of marijuana in 15 minutes to induce death! Many over-the-counter medications are much more lethal than marijuana.

THC stays in the body for up to 30 days. This is a common misleading claim printed in the marijuana pamphlets created by the National Federation of Parents for a Drug-Free Youth. They say that THC "is readily absorbed by fatty tissue in the brain and reproductive organs...Thus THC takes its primary toll on the body in this very long post-smoking period, when the user is unaware of its presence."

Delta-9-THC is identified as the primary psychoactive substance in marijuana which creates the "high." However, THC is rapidly metabolized into other chemicals which are not associated with the "high." These inactive "metabolites" are fat soluble and may remain in the body for up to 30 days. Thus, urine tests can identify people who have used marijuana, but that does not mean a person is "under the influence" of THC. At this time, research has not shown any negative consequences stemming from THC metabolites stored in the body.

Marijuana use is the "gateway" to harder drugs. This theory has been cited so frequently that many people actually believe that there is something about marijuana that creates a craving for harder drugs. Some opponents of this theory stress that nicotine and alcohol are the true gateway drugs. Sociologists explain that it is the "illegal" status of marijuana that makes it function as a gateway and that associating with people already "outside the law" brings marijuana users in contact with those who have access to other illegal drugs.

The messages sent by the pharmaceutical companies, with their highly effective marketing strategies, are probably the biggest "gateway" of all. Day in and day out the public is bombarded with advertisements that essentially preach this message: "Got a problem--solve it with a drug." These ads maintain that problems can be immediately remedied by using "safe and effective" legal drugs. Because these drugs are legal, we are also taught to believe that they are "good" and "safe."

Clearly, the youth of America are receiving mixed messages about drug use. Hopefully, they are discovering that many of the things they are being told about marijuana are not true and are questioning the pharmaceutical companies' hype about "safe" drugs. In a society where our young people are supposed to "Say No" to "bad" drugs while "good" drugs continue to be pitched to them, I can only hope that they're smart enough to choose their own drugs. ●

FLICK FORD

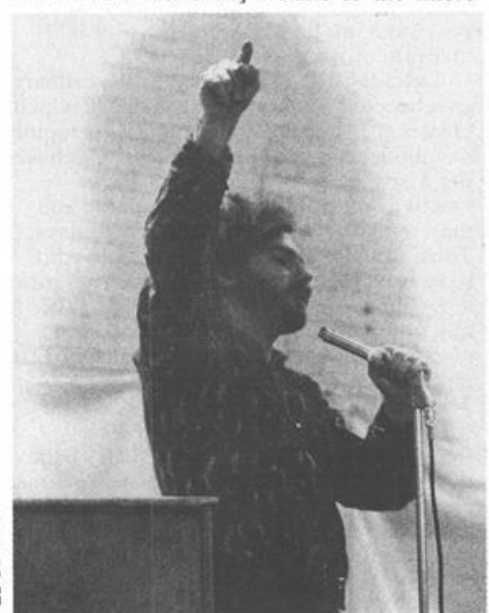
READING RUBIN

by Steve Bloom

Jerry Rubin was going to do a HIGH TIMES interview recently, but he thought better of it. "I don't relate to that constituency any more," he said after agreeing to the interview, then backing out. Seems Rubin was too busy assisting his wife, Mimi, who had just had their second child, and dealing with the financial pressures of raising a family while running his schmooze-biz, Network America.

But Rubin did have enough time to bid for the Abbie Hoffman book, which he didn't get, and do interviews for health glossies, *Runner's World* and *Longevity*. Since Jerry wasn't talking to us, here's some of what he had to say to them:

* "I've always been an extremist...I build my entire life around fitness...Running is an end in itself...To me, the greater contradiction is people who want to change society, but are fat and smoke cigarettes. How can you want to change society when your own life is out of balance?...[About his debates with Abbie Hoffman] I came to the micro-



Jerry in 1971.

phone carrying a bottle of Perrier and looking 20 years younger than I was, speaking about running, exercise and taking care of yourself. Abbie, looking 20 years older than he was, was eating and drinking sugar, living on ribs and had a cold or the flu every other week. And he was preaching radical change, accusing me of caring only about myself and thinking running was going to save the world. I find that very interesting." (*Runner's World*)

* "I have a macrobiotic chef who comes to my home twice a week. He cooks 12 different dishes, as well as 30 oat-bran cookies, and I have one every morning and evening...I drink a lot of distilled water. I also sprinkle vitamin powder on my food, and sometimes I take 20 to 30 supplements a day...I jog about 20 miles a week...My hair is thinning, but I'm not into taking minoxidil...I go to a lot of doctors and get a lot of testing done. Health is true hedonism as far as I'm concerned. I'm as hedonistic now about health as I was about drugs in the '60s." (*Longevity*--"Anti-Aging News" section) ●

KILL THIS BILL!



FRANK MAX

by L. Glover

In the past few months, Ohio, as well as other generally liberal states, have begun to reconsider their marijuana decriminalization laws. In today's atmosphere of anti-drug hysteria, the door has swung wide open for grandstanding plays by politicians inveighing against illegal drugs.

Ohio's recrim efforts began in 1986, with a bill introduced by two Republican state senators. Thanks to the efforts of NORML member Cliff Barrows, the bill never made it out of Ohio's Senate Judiciary Committee. Barrows attended the hearings and testified on the behalf of Ohio marijuana smokers. A 1987 bill that proposed to increase possession penalties for first-time offenders

was also thwarted.

This past May, however, the Ohio Senate passed Bill 76, by a 30-0 vote. This repressive piece of legislation calls for increased penalties for possession of any amount of pot (even a seed in your carpet), mandatory prison sentences for cultivation and sale, and gives the police the right to burst into "suspected drug operations" without warning.

Sponsored by Republican Sen. Paul Pfeifer, Bill 76 would repeal Ohio's decrim law. Decriminalization was enacted in 1975, when the 6th US Circuit Court of Appeals held that the state's then-existing penalty--10 to 20 years for pot possession--was cruel and unusual punishment. But that ruling was subsequently overruled by the US

BACH TO BASICS

by Leslie Stackel

Don't give up the farm! Deregulate hemp and bolster the economy.

That's the battlecry of the Business Alliance for Commerce in Hemp (BACH), the latest non-profit group to join the campaign for legalization of the hemp plant. Unlike NORML and other pro-pot activist groups, BACH doesn't "push the smoking aspects--we're talking business applications here," says Chris Conrad, founder and national director of the Los Angeles-based organization.

By reframing the national debate over marijuana legalization, BACH hopes to win new support from private industry. "The whole constitutional question of legalization and all the traditional arguments posed by NORML and others are important," Conrad says. "But that's less than half the picture, really: The most valuable part of the hemp plant is the stem. The same way we overlook the real valuable part of the plant, we overlook the economic issue."

By zeroing in on commercial uses of hemp--for fuel, textiles, paper, medicine and

food--BACH aims to change the thinking of corporate America about this resource. Appeal to the profit motive by talking jobs, raw materials and bottom-line dollars and cents and legalization will come within five to ten years, Conrad predicts.

A graphic artist for Los Angeles' *Downtown News*, as well as political activist, Conrad says he organized BACH in March after reading Jack Herer's treatise on hemp, *The Emperor Wears No Clothes*.

"I found that hemp was a popular farm-belt crop from pre-Revolutionary War times to the 1930s," Conrad explains. "It disappeared suddenly after newspaper mogul William Randolph Hearst, who had major holdings in timber companies, spearheaded a movement to ban it in 1937. That was a year after a new hemp machine was invented, which would've made hemp more competitive with wood [for paper] and threatened Hearst's empire."

The Declaration of Independence and first draft of the Constitution were written on hemp paper, he notes. And early American flags were made of hemp cloth. "We need to re-educate the public about the

Supreme Court, which opined that states had the right to set their own penalties.

The proposed new penalties are as follows: a \$250 fine and 30-days in jail for possession of 20 grams or less of pot. Currently, the fine is \$100 for possession of 100 grams or less. A minor misdemeanor now, the law would change possession to a fourth-class misdemeanor, giving those convicted a criminal record. Upon entering a rehab program, convicted pot users would get their fines and sentences reduced. An amendment to the bill, proposed by Republican State Sen. Robert Cupp, would allow police to use detecto dogs in schools without a search warrant.

Barrows, along with Columbus activist James Parker, has printed up a letter called "Freedom Alert" and sent it to Ohio NORML members, Libertarians and other interested Ohioans. It spreads the word about the Senate passage of the recrim bill, and suggests that each recipient write to state politicians expressing disapproval. Included is a form letter intended for use by those who are having difficulty writing their own.

One letter-writer has already received this surprising response--from Republican Rep. Tom Watkins: "I agree with you that it is not necessary to increase these particular [marijuana] penalties...Please rest assured that I will do all that I can to get this particular section removed from [the bill]."

In order for the bill to become law, it still has to win approval in the state's House. The Ohio House Judiciary Committee will begin hearings on the bill in September. The committee's Democratic chairman, Terry Trantor, has already voiced support for re-criminalization. "I'm not so sure we should look so lightly at those who use marijuana," he told the *Columbus Dispatch*. "I'd bet there's not a heroin or cocaine addict who started with those two drugs."

Pot smokers in Ohio should make sure these hearings don't pass without their voices being heard. ●

plant," Conrad says, "and spread the word of its value."

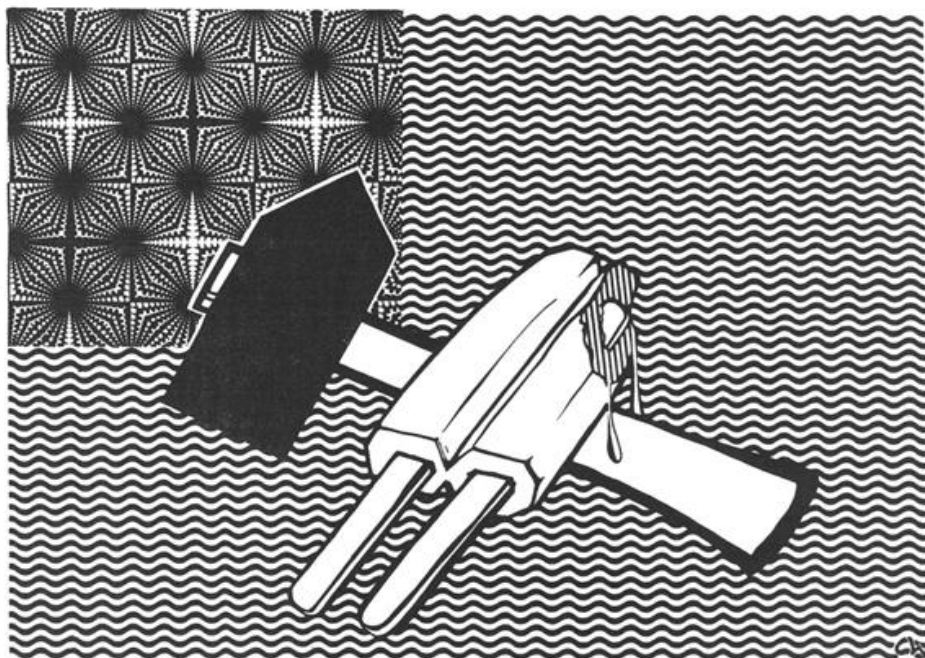
To that end, BACH has a three-phase program underway--organization, public relations and deregulation. Says Conrad, "We're focusing now on putting together a coalition with industrial backing. Next, we'll send out public service announcements and more literature. And then we'll begin lobbying state legislators to deregulate hemp. California will be our first target. Kentucky was, historically, a big producer of hemp and its products, so we're looking there as well. And also Oregon, with its timber industry now in jeopardy." The farming community, in deep financial trouble for over two decades, "is our strategic linchpin," he adds. "It links the North, Midwest and South."

Recent environmental crises--from the Exxon oil spill in Alaska, to nuclear power plant leakages, to general devastation of our national forests--will force the hand of corporate America, Conrad believes. "Companies are losing money propping up the petrochemical industry. When they realize this, and the fuel alternative they have in hemp [as methanol], they'll come around," he says.

For more information about BACH, write: PO Box 71093, Los Angeles, CA 90071-0093. ●

OUTLAW NATION

THE EMPIRE STRIKES OUT



by Ed Rosenthal

Ever since the Soviet takeover of Eastern Europe 40 years ago, the United States has engaged in a Cold War against the USSR. We shouldn't have bothered. As we turn the corner into the '90s, Russia is falling apart. The unwieldy communist giant has simply imploded, collapsing by itself.

When the Russians captured their more technologically advanced Western neighbors during World War II, they immediately milked them by imposing unfair commercial deals. By 1979, their economies were finally spent and the nations' wealth used up; the first cracks in the Soviet empire suddenly appeared.

Entropy had set in. Energy, wealth and productivity were constantly being drained by the cost of maintaining order. Imagine a card game where the house takes a little something each time a hand is played. If enough hands are played, the house will eventually take all the money from the players. But when new players arrive with more money this is called an open set. New money has been introduced.

Capitalists are constantly inventing new products that consumers feel compelled to buy. Some of these new products are so essential to daily life that people don't know how they could have ever lived without them. In my lifetime I've seen the arrival of TV, video, stereo, personal copiers, computers, fax machines, the Beatles, the Grateful Dead and Skunk #1. New products have transcended Marx's theory that capitalists require a steady diet of military imperialism in order to thrive.

Russia and its allies were a closed set. All wealth flowed from the satellite nations to the Soviet Union, which used it to raise the Russian standard of living and maintain

order. Meanwhile, the satellites' economies were run into the ground. So much for sharing the wealth.

The more a government tries to regulate a society the more energy it dissipates. In the United States, for instance, so much money is spent on police and prisons that there is little money left to change the very conditions that create the crime environment. It's an entropic cost: nothing is gained, while energy and wealth is dissipated on cops, judges, lawyers, jailors and parole officers. Like Russia, the US is a closed set.

The Soviet Union and its satellites are extremely ordered societies. To achieve this uniformity, intricate networks of Communist Party members, police, informers, censors, judges, jailors and other bureaucrats slurp off the public trough, using Eastern Europe's wealth to stamp out creativity, individual expression and opinion. Now that the empire's wealth has been drained, Mikhail Gorbachev is letting the satellites limp away.

The Soviet Empire is coming apart. Rumania, which steered a semi-independent foreign policy for years and was given support by the US in the '60s and '70s, has become the most repressive of all the Soviet countries. Rumania's neighbor, Hungary, has complained to the USSR about Rumania's attacks against Hungarians living in Rumania, but nothing is done about it.

For 40 years there has been peace in Europe as a result of American and Soviet hegemony. As European countries become independent and gain freedom, their ancient rivalries and hatreds will be expressed. Strife could very well result from the Balkinization of Eastern Europe. Before we go any further, do we really know what we want? ●

QUICK FLASHES

HEAD SHOPS CLOSED

Two branches of Piggy Malone's in Berkeley and Alameda, CA, were closed for selling bong, pipes and powder kits as part of Customs' Operation PIPE (Paraphernalia Interdiction Program for Enforcement). Customs

"4 COPS SEIZED IN DRUG RAID"

That's how the *Chicago Sun-Times* headlined its story about the bust of a major narcotics ring, which included shutting down an alleged drug pipeline into the Cook County jail and a drug "supermarket" in

confiscated more than half the company's inventory, including 220 boxes of bong, water pipes and powder kits, during an eight-hour raid. The 1986 Federal anti-drug bill allows Customs to raid head shops that import or export paraphernalia.

Chicago. Among the 19 people arrested in this DEA bust were a sergeant with 26 years on the Chicago police force and a patrolman with 35 years.



LAPD BUSTED

Charged with vandalizing homes and terrorizing citizens during a 1988 drug raid, nine Los Angeles cops have been ordered to appear before LAPD Board of Rights tribunals. The nine face long suspensions or job termination; 25 others have been suspended without pay. In August 1988, four homes in the poverty-stricken Southwest section of LA were raided after a drive-by, gang-style shooting. In their zealous search for drugs, the police smashed walls,

windows and plumbing fixtures, and spray-painted anti-gang slogans like "LAPD Rules" and "Rolling 30s Die" (a street-gang reference) on the walls. A lawsuit filed by some of the 30-plus people taken into custody (only nine were arrested) charged that, among other abuses, police forced them to whistle the theme from *The Andy Griffith Show*. Anyone who didn't whistle was punched or hit in the head with metal flashlights.



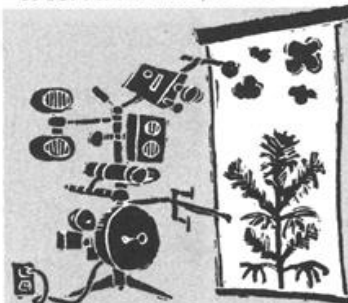
CALLING ALL HOMEBOYS

Just wanted you to know we appreciate all those envelopes stuffed with clips that we receive from you everyday. Once again, we only ask that you date each clip and tell us which newspaper and locality it

comes from. If we use your clip for a Quick Flash item, we'll send you a pack of official HIGH TIMES rolling paper or matches--depending on which runs out first. So include a name and address where we can mail it to.

HEADY IDEAS

Steve Zucker, a professional sports agent, once worked for the Chicago Police Department as a legal advisor. Among other things, he prosecuted the late Abbie Hoffman during the Chicago 7 conspiracy trial in 1968. At the time, Abbie wore a



FAKIN' IT?

Did US Customs stage a \$50 million cocaine bust in Houston just days before a congressional committee was scheduled to meet there? Kent Schaffer, a narcotics defense lawyer, thinks

headband with the word "fuck" scrawled on it. Now we know where Bears' quarterback Jim McMahon got the idea of wearing headbands with "outrageous" messages written on them. Steve Zucker is McMahon's agent.

so. He believes that the 500-kilo seizure in June was intended to show off the agency's high-tech, anti-smuggling gadgets, in order to justify spending millions more on useless expensive, electronic surveillance equipment. "They knew exactly where that plane was going. So why did they need all that stuff?" Schaffer says. "Here comes an opportunity where they can show Congress what they are doing with it." Customs' Steve Hooper responded predictably: "We were really operating on the bad guys' schedule. They were not operating on ours." Six arrests were made after the bust.

WAR ON BOOZE

In a recently released 100-page report, Surgeon General C. Everett Koop calls for a war on drunken drivers, as well as an end to alcohol ads like Budweisers' Spuds McKenzie campaign. Koop contends that such ads give the message to youth that "alcohol consumption leads to athletic, social and sexual success." Koop says that states should reduce permitted blood-alcohol levels from .10 percent to .04 percent by the year 2000 and recommends that state legislatures allow police to

seize drivers' licenses on the spot when a driver fails a blood-alcohol test.



ORIGINAL OR CRISPY?

In California, drug experts recently predicted that toad licking could be the next drug craze. Certain toads, especially the Sonoran Desert toad, excrete a mind-altering chemical, bufotinine, through their skin to ward off predators. "It's named in the same category as heroin and LSD," said Robert Sager, head of the DEA's Western Regional Laboratory in San Francisco. "It has abuse potential and no known medical uses." Last year in Australia, four people overdosed on toad-skin tea.

QUOTABLE QUOTES

"We've turned the corner on drug addiction in America."
--President Richard M. Nixon, speaking in 1973.

"The United States is five percent of the world's population, yet we consume 50 percent of the world's illegal drugs."
--Sen. Paul Simon (D-IL)

"I guess you could say that we picked pot packed in pickled peppers."
--US Customs Service spokesperson Joan Baran, after four tons of marijuana were found in vegetable cans.

QUICK FLASHES
by John Holmstrom

TRANS-HIGH QUOTATIONS MARKET

Send quotations to: THMQ, 211E. 43rd Street, New York, NY 10017. THMQ is intended solely for informational purposes. All entries should be typed or neatly handwritten. If you are unable to compose a legible entry after testing your samples, please wait until you regain control of your penmanship before sending us your information. Marijuana is listed by 1/4-ounce, ounce, 1/4-pound, and pound prices only. Don't bother sending prices for hard drugs. Prices in this issue are current as of July 17, 1989. Please note: THMQ is NOT a mail-order service. Don't bother trying to order items which appear in THMQ from the HIGH TIMES offices.

LSD: happy faces
"Superman of acid; don't worry, be happy." \$5-7 a hit.

Glen Cove, NY

Hawaiian X Jamaican X Skunk Big Bud "mind blowing; body numbing; sweet, huge, potent, trippy buds; now I can die happy!" \$75 1/4-oz; \$300 oz.
"Shrooms" large caps; blue stems; going fast; have a nice trip! \$130 oz.

Gladstone, OR

Oregon green "very stoney skunk." \$50-70 1/4-oz; \$650-775 lb.
Black hash "primo; gold seal." \$10 gm.
LSD: Club Dead "intense; from Eugene, OR; 150 mics." \$1.50-3 a hit; \$100-125 a sheet.
Opium "shitty." \$25 gm.
LSD: Club Dead "made this '60s head respect life again; the antidote for civilization." \$10 for three hits; \$140 for 100 hits.
LSD: Psycho Snowflakes "six hours of 3D cartoon land." \$2.50-3 a hit; \$130 a sheet.

Milwaukee, WI

Basement bud "big buzz and big bite; bitchin' price." \$700 1/4-lb.
Underworld weed "killer crystalline tips; Jack's favorite bud!" \$55 1/4-oz.
California weed "brown and dry--just like the shit it grows in." \$25 1/4-oz.

Portland, OR

Oregon green "the very best in Oregon." \$50-65 1/4-oz; \$650-750 oz.
Jamaican X Haze "moon trippin'." \$275 oz.
LSD: blue dot "with vitamin C; just like the old days; 250 mics." \$3-4 a hit; \$150-180 for 100.
Greenhouse peyote "plentiful." \$10 for three buttons; \$20 for one-year-old plants.

Hartsville, SC

Indica "great buzz; for friends only." \$25 1/4-oz; \$100 oz; \$350 1/4-oz.
Homegrown Big Bud "few seeds; overpriced." \$40 1/4-oz; \$130 oz; \$450 1/4-lb.

Sumter, SC

Kentucky sinse "kickass; big buds; orange hairs." \$120 oz; \$385 1/4-lb.
Brown/green local grown lizardweed "weak; poor bags; mediocre buzz; better luck next year!" \$100 oz; \$350 1/4-lb.

Skunk bud "decent; good buzz; plenty around, but bags are skimpy; lots of seeds and stems." \$40 1/4-oz; \$110 oz.
Brown dirtweed "from NC; slow but lasting buzz; same stuff as last year." \$40 1/4-oz; \$100 oz.

Nashville, TN

Green Mexican "average quality; plentiful." \$40 1/4-oz; \$325 1/4-lb.
Jamaican "packed hard as a rock; green stuff is good, but stay away from the brown." \$40 1/4-oz; \$140 oz.
Hawaiian "sticky and skunky." \$45-60 1/4-oz.
Indoor dwarf indica "the best; tons of little buds covered in resin; clean high; very tasty." \$50-60 1/4-oz; \$200 oz; \$750 1/4-lb; \$2800 lb.
"Shrooms" clean and powerful; great visuals." \$45 1/4-oz.

El Paso, TX

Mexican dirtweed \$20 oz; \$100 1/4-lb.
Sativa "bright green; fresh." \$15 1/4-oz; \$130 1/4-lb.
Indica buds "tightly packed; upbeat, giggly shit." \$50 oz; \$600 lb.
Colombian brickweed "seedy; nice if you wanna be tired." \$30 oz; \$75 1/4-lb.
"Shrooms" outlandish visuals; gotta know the right people." \$10 gm; \$200 1/4-lb.

LSD: Blue Unicorn, Woodstock, Oriental Temples, TV Screens "good stuff, Maynard!" \$3 a hit; \$100 for 100.

Houston, TX

Mexican red bud "sweet but sorry." \$20 1/4-oz; \$70 oz; \$200 1/4-lb.
Skunk "comes and goes." \$25 1/4-oz; \$225 1/4-lb.
Pine "primo." \$30 1/4-oz; \$250 1/4-lb.

LaCrosse, WI

Sticky brown sinse "incredibly delicious hash taste; perfect for stash." \$200 oz.
Purple skunk "excellent up buzz with no comedown burnout slag; produced for the all day stoner." \$60 1/4-oz; \$220 oz.
Kush X Durban tops "huge kolas of redhaird, supersweet, resinous buds; creeper high; up and long lasting." \$60 1/4-oz; \$850 1/4-lb.

Costa Mesa, CA

Red hair sinse "solid buds; pretty stoney; kinda harsh." \$80 oz.
Mexican "shakey; lots of seeds; ok high." \$70 oz.
Hydro Skunk weed "super intense; hard to get." \$80 1/4-oz.
Skunk "pale green; smelly; good high." \$60 1/4-oz.
Sativa "hefty buds; no seeds; good taste; cool high." \$60 1/4-oz.
LSD: Lucky Charms, Woodstock "probably bunk." \$3-5 a hit.
Cocaine "inconsistent quality." \$80 gm.

Jacksonville, FL

Skunk #1 "the best shit for the money." \$45 1/4-oz.
Miami dirtweed "a waste of time and money." \$20 1/4-oz.
Indica "just dripping with resin; a must for your bong; kicks ass!" \$65 1/4-oz.
Krypto bud "one bong hit and you're gone; this shit will mangle you; hard to find; the price will put a dent in your wallet." \$90-110 1/4-oz.
LSD: green crosses, Woodstock, unicorns, Batman, gooney birds "all fresh and intense with great visuals and colors." \$5-6 a hit.
LSD: Grateful Dead "this kicks your ass; don't mess with it unless you're not doing anything for a couple of days; you'll find it down at the beach." \$8 a hit.

Palm Beach, FL

Jamaican sinse "good buzz, but kinda short." \$30 1/4-oz.
Dirtweed "gotta smoke a joint and a half to get off!" \$25 1/4-oz.
Skunk "local grown; great smell; mellow hits; no harm to the lungs." \$200 oz.
Green sinse "leafy; always here." \$25-30 1/4-oz.
Brown buds "resin filled; you get it out west; wow... an interstellar high; totally psychoactive." \$45 1/4-oz.
Homegrown "yellow hairs; no seeds; three-toke high; great buy." \$40 1/4-oz.
Seedy red pot "please stop selling this!" \$20 1/4-oz.
LSD: big pigs, pink pigs "good for first timers." \$5 a hit.
LSD: blotter, clown's tear \$350 for 100 hits.

LSD: white on purple, stars, blue skies "very mind expanding; trip for hours." \$5 a hit.
LSD: eye of the tiger "never on Hallowe'en." \$4 a hit.
LSD: blotter "father of LSD; rare trip; very hallucinatory." \$200 for 80 hits.

Atlanta, GA

Sinsemilla "maxi-weed; locally grown; just looking at this stuff gets you high; limited quantity." \$45 1/4-oz.

Martinez, GA

Mean green "light green buds; intense high." \$40 1/4-oz.
Ohio bud "rock hard; the best shit going around; you're coma-toasted after half the joint is gone." \$50 1/4-oz.
LSD: tie dye blotter "a kaleidoscope of musical colors." \$7 a hit.
LSD: Batman blotter "the bat craze has hit the blotter; a trip and a half." \$5 a hit; \$250 a sheet.

Quitman, GA

Compressed Jamaican "potent; tastes only fair, though." \$35 1/4-oz; \$125 oz.
Skunk bud "scarce; worth the money." \$45-50 1/4-oz; \$160-180 oz.

Indianapolis, IN

Hawaiian sinse "pretty good high; nice and sticky; smells great." \$35 1/4-oz; \$110 oz.
LSD: gel "lots and lots of visuals." \$5-6 a hit.
Kentucky grown indica "looks great; excellent high." \$45 1/4-oz; \$165 oz.
Indoor high tech hydro "finishing up." \$75 1/4-oz; \$280 oz.
Sativa/NL #3 "smooth gobstoppers." \$50 1/4-oz.
Hawaiian "curiously strong." \$75 1/4-oz.
Green sinse "abundant; medium, dull buzz." \$35 1/4-oz.
Sativa "brown; semi-seedless; sweet, spacey high." \$40 1/4-oz; \$150 oz.
Indica "shake and fan leaf; for desperate measures." \$15 1/4-oz.
LSD: assorted blotter \$2-4 a hit.
LSD: liquid "takes you there and keeps you there." \$4 a drop.

Mt. Pleasant, MI

Mexican \$35 1/4-oz.

Golden Thai \$40 1/4-oz.
Black hash \$10 gm.
LSD: yellow blotter \$5 a hit.
Colombian brown dirtweed \$25 1/4-oz.
William's Wonder "the best shit around." \$40 1/4-oz.

Bellevue, NE

Top Dog weed "toké till you choke for a ditchweed buzz." \$25 1/4-oz.
LSD: unicorns "a different trip every time; inconsistent dose." \$4-5 a hit; \$250 a sheet.

Souther, NH

Mexican dirtweed "bongable, but should not be twisted; tastes like Earth." \$120 oz.
Good green "almost no smell; good buzz; too bad it's seedy and stemmy." \$50 1/4-oz; \$120 oz.
Light green buds "alright taste; burns too fast." \$45 1/4-oz; \$180 oz.
Dark green buds "sticky; skunky; don't need to smoke much." \$55 1/4-oz; \$200 oz.
LSD: green stars, orange stars "definite perma-grin." \$3 a hit.
LSD: liquid on sugarcubes "puts you away for days." \$10 a cube.
LSD: blotter "the magic unicorns do it again; eight hour trip." \$5 a hit.

Cherry Hill, NJ

Killer skunk "light green buds; few seeds; most of the time the price is bad, though." \$280 1/4-lb.
Sinse "okay; shakey; does the job." \$35-45 1/4-oz.
"Shrooms" "killer; gets you off nicely." \$40-50 1/4-oz.
Mild skunk "lots of shake;

nice flavor; gets you toasted." \$45-50 1/4-oz.
Red bud "exotic; good taste; gets you off nicely; fries your brain." \$50-70 1/4-oz.
"Shrooms" "big juicy stems; killer effects." \$40-50 1/4-oz; \$120-140 oz.

Parlin, NJ


Humboldt County indica/sativa sinse "a little old, but still ass-kicking." \$75 1/4-oz; \$300 oz.
Hawaiian sativa sinse "grade A sativa at its best." \$80 1/4-oz; \$300-325 oz.
NJ William's Wonder "strongest THC content of all indicas." \$70 1/4-oz.
Arkansas indica/sativa hybrid "heavy indica taste, but with a soaring sativa high; excellent value!" \$60 1/4-oz; \$200 1/4-lb; \$1900 lb.
Indonesian sativa "kilo-size square blocks of old, dark brown, dry moldweed; kinda like early '80s Colombian dirt pot." \$400 1/4-lb; \$1400 lb.
Mexican semi-sinse sativa "real wet texture; moldy smell; getting worse and worse." \$1375 lb.
LSD: airplanes "excellent clean trip; Dead show acid from Ohio." \$3-5 a hit.

Buffalo, NY

Red bud "harsh hitting; large buds." \$110 oz; \$800 lb.
Aqua weed "best of the West; light green; few seeds." \$40 1/4-oz; \$135 oz.
LSD: floortiles "mellow trip; last a day and a half." \$4-6 a hit.



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HIGHWITNESS NEWS

continued from page 19

when we ourselves should do more within our own border. Moreover, this gives precisely the wrong signal about our seriousness in the fight against drugs.

A necessary precondition for reducing drug use in America is that the use of illegal drugs increasingly be seen as unacceptable behavior.

The use of illegal drugs produces serious and extremely dangerous physical effects. This is reflected in the statistics compiled by the Drug Abuse Warning Network (DAWN), which show a 309 percent increase in emergency room mentions for cocaine use between 1985 and 1988. For marijuana the increase was 115 percent. We cannot in any sense be said to be winning the fight against drugs unless there is significant decline in these health indicators.

IMPLEMENTATION PLANS

Expand domestic marijuana eradication programs.

Hold drug users more responsible for their illegal behavior. The Administration will seek to amend Chapter 1 of Title 23, United States Code, to require states to adopt a policy of revoking the driver's licenses of drug users and delaying eligibility for juvenile users who do not yet possess licenses in order to receive their full allocation of Federal highway funds.

INTERNATIONAL

Reduce supply of marijuana. Strengthen foreign law enforcement and eradication and discourage minor producing nations from becoming producers.

RESOURCE NEEDS-- MARIJUANA ERADICATION

Increased resources for the Federal government are needed to enable it, in cooperation with State and local authorities, to reduce the aggregate amount of marijuana cultivated in the United States. [Seven Federal agencies were involved in eradication in 1989; twelve are projected for 1990.]

SUGGESTED STATE DRUG CONTROL LAWS

Enact state "user accountability" laws. States should enact a range of penalties for persons caught using or possessing even small amounts of drugs. Such laws should include the following:

Suspension of drivers license for 1-5 years.

Suspension of state benefits, such as student loans, grants, contracts, etc. for 1-5 years.

Imposition of civil fines [or so-called "user fees"] of up to \$10,000 for possession of drugs. ●

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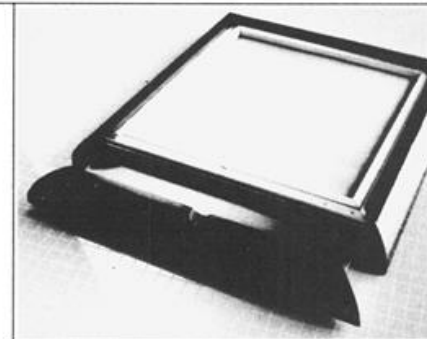
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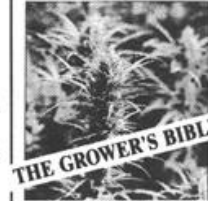


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FOR THE COUNTERCULTURE HERO OF THE YEAR

1. Would you like to see MORE, LESS, or THE SAME AMOUNT of coverage of the following topics:

	MORE	LESS	THE SAME
psychedelic drugs	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
music features	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
travel features	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
fiction	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
high technology/the future	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
nonchemical highs	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
environmental issues	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
hemp for food, fuel, fiber	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
radical politics	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
pot protests	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
grow information	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

2. How would you rate the following items in this month's issue ?

	GREAT	GOOD	OK	BAD	DIDN'T READ
Quick Flashes news page	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Outlaw Nation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
High Art	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
"The Ultimate Hippie"	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
"Vitamin K"	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
"Hemp for Victory"	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
"Golden Triangle"	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

3. How would you rate this month's Ultimate Party Magazine?

	GREAT	GOOD	OK	BAD	DIDN'T READ
Hound's Eye	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Chef Ra's Kitchen	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Hooch Harris	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
The Top 100	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
comics	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
overall	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

4. Would you like to see a cover story about the Furry Freak Brothers? ☐ YES ☐ NO

5. Where do you buy HIGH TIMES ?

☐ newsstand
 ☐ book store
 ☐ record store
 ☐ head shop
 ☐ convenience store
☐ subscribe
☐ other _____

6. How often do you buy HIGH TIMES?

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 ☐ 4-6 times a year
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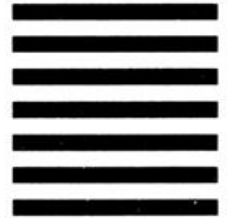
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8. Have you attended at least one marijuana protest rally in the last year ? ☐ yes ☐ no
9. Do you listen to: ☐ '60s/'70s classic rock ☐ heavy metal ☐ reggae ☐ new age/space music
☐ punk/hardcore ☐ other _____
10. What is the best movie you've seen in the last year? _____
11. Do you buy organic/natural products and/or shop at health food stores? ☐ yes ☐ no
12. Do you drink beer ? ☐ never ☐ once a month ☐ about once a week ☐ a few times a week
☐ every day
13. Are you : ☐ male ☐ female
14. What is your age? ☐ under 18 ☐ 18-22 ☐ 23-26 ☐ 27-35 ☐ 36-45 ☐ over 45
15. What was your income last year ?
- ☐ under \$10,000 ☐ \$10,000-\$14,999 ☐ \$15,000-\$19,999 ☐ \$20,000-\$29,999
☐ \$30,000-\$39,999 ☐ \$40,000-\$49,999 ☐ over \$50,000

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16. What local store in your area would you like to see display HIGH TIMES?

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17. Do you grow your own ? (optional) ☐ yes ☐ no

18. VOTE FOR COUNTERCULTURE HERO OF THE YEAR!

We're looking for someone of national or international prominence who has worked hard to realize the goals of the counterculture in 1989. The winner will be profiled in a future issue of HIGH TIMES.

YOUR VOTE _____

19. Please feel free to make any additional comments: _____

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HEMP FOR VICTORY

We all know that pot was made illegal in 1938 after a tremendous disinformation campaign. What most of us don't realize, however, is that cannabis was made *legal* in 1942 and stayed legal for the duration of WWII. Why?

Because the government needed cannabis for the manufacture of rope, shoes, uniforms and parachutes. Which means that when President George Bush bailed out of his fighter plane, it was cannabis that saved his life. We know this because in 1942 the government made a film entitled *Hemp for Victory*, designed to encourage patriotic farmers to grow more pot. A transcript of the film's narration appears on the following page.



Long ago when these ancient Grecian temples were new, hemp was already old in the service of mankind. For thousands of years, even then, this plant had been grown for cordage and cloth in China and elsewhere in the East. For centuries prior to about 1850 all the ships that sailed the western seas were rigged with hempen rope and sails. For the sailor, no less than the hangman, hemp was indispensable.

A 44-gun frigate like our cherished Old Ironsides took over 60 tons of hemp for rigging, including an anchor cable 25 inches in circumference. The Conestoga wagons and prairie schooners of pioneer days were covered with hemp canvas. Indeed the very word canvas comes from the Arabic word for hemp. In those days hemp was an important crop in Kentucky and Missouri. Then came cheaper imported fibers for cordage, like jute, sisal and Manila hemp, and the culture of hemp in America declined.

But now with Philippine and East Indian sources of hemp in the hands of the Japanese, and shipment of jute from India curtailed, American hemp must meet the needs of our Army and Navy as well as of our industry. In 1942, patriotic farmers at the government's request planted 36,000 acres of seed hemp, an increase of several thousand percent. The goal for 1943 is 50,000 acres of seed hemp.

In Kentucky much of the seed hemp acreage is on river bottom land such as this. Some of these fields are inaccessible except by boat. Thus plans are afoot for a great expansion of a hemp industry as a part of the war program. This film is designed to tell farmers how to handle this ancient crop now little known outside Kentucky and Wisconsin.

This is hemp seed. Be careful how you use it. For to grow hemp legally you must have a federal registration and tax stamp. This is provided for in your contract. Ask your county agent about it. Don't forget.

Hemp demands a rich, well-drained soil such as is found here in the Blue Grass region of Kentucky or in central Wisconsin. It must be loose and rich in organic matter. Poor soils won't do. Soil that will grow good corn will usually grow hemp.

Hemp is not hard on the soil. In Kentucky it has been grown for several years on the same ground, though this practice is not recommended. A dense and shady crop, hemp tends to choke out weeds. Here's a Canada thistle that couldn't stand the competition, dead as a dodo. Thus hemp leaves the ground in good condition for the following crop.

For fiber, hemp should be sown closely, the closer the rows, the better. These rows are spaced about four inches. This hemp has been broadcast. Either way it should be sown thick enough to grow a slender stalk. Here's an ideal stand: the right height to be harvested easily, thick enough to grow slender stalks that are easy to cut and process.

Stalks like these here on the left yield the most fiber and the best. Those on the right are too coarse and woody. For seed, hemp is planted in hills like corn. Sometimes by hand. Hemp is a dioecious plant. The female flower is inconspicuous. But the male flower is easily spotted. In seed production after the pollen has been shed, these male plants are cut out. These are the seeds on a female plant.

Hemp for fiber is ready to harvest when the pollen is shedding and the leaves are falling. In Kentucky, hemp harvest comes in August. Here the old standby has been the self-rake reaper, which has been used for a generation or more.

Hemp grows so luxuriantly in Kentucky that harvesting is sometimes difficult, which may account for

the popularity of the self-rake with its lateral stroke. A modified rice binder has been used to some extent. This machine works well on average hemp. Recently, the improved hemp harvester, used for many years in Wisconsin, has been introduced in Kentucky. This machine spreads the hemp in a continuous swath. It is a far cry from this fast and efficient modern harvester, that doesn't stall in the heaviest hemp.

In Kentucky, hand cutting is practicing in opening fields for the machine. In Kentucky, hemp is shucked as soon as safe, after cutting, to be spread out for retting later in the fall.

In Wisconsin, hemp is harvested in September. Here the hemp harvester with automatic spreader is standard equipment. Note how smoothly the rotating apron lays the swaths preparatory to retting. Here it is a common and essential practice to leave headlands around hemp fields. These strips may be planted with other crops, preferably small grain. Thus the harvester has room to make its first round without preparatory hand cutting. The other machine is running over corn stubble. When the cutter bar is much shorter than the hemp is tall, overlapping occurs. Not so good for retting. The standard cut is eight to nine feet.

The length of time hemp is left on the ground to ret depends on the weather. The swaths must be turned to get a uniform ret. When the woody core breaks away readily like this, the hemp is about ready to pick up and bind into bundles. Well-retted hemp is light to dark grey. The fiber tends to pull away from the stalks. The

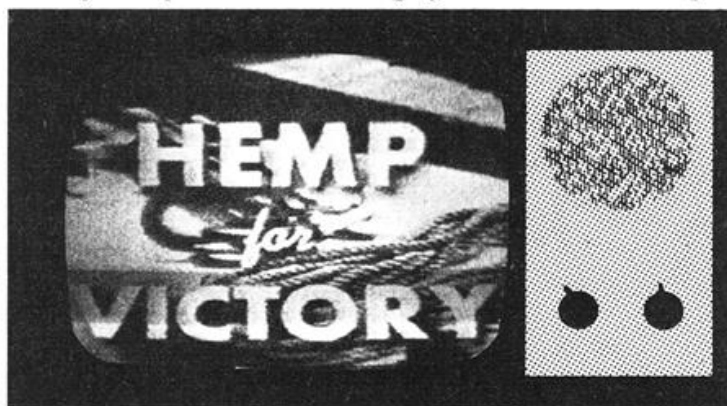
presence of stalks in the bough-string stage indicates that retting is well underway. When hemp is short or tangled or when the ground is too wet for machines, it's bound by hand. A wooden bucket is used. Twine will do for tying, but the hemp itself makes a good band.

When conditions are favorable, the pickup binder is commonly used. The swaths should lie smooth and even with the stalks parallel. The picker won't

work well in tangled hemp. After binding, hemp is shucked as soon as possible to stop further retting. In 1942, 14,000 acres of fiber hemp were harvested in the United States. The goal for the old standby cordage fiber, is staging a strong comeback.

This is Kentucky hemp going into the dryer over mill at Versailles. In the old days braking was done by hand. One of the hardest jobs known to man. Now the power braker makes quick work of it.

Spinning American hemp into rope yarn or twine in the old Kentucky river mill at Frankfort, Kentucky. Another pioneer plant that has been making cordage for more than a century. All such plants will presently be turning out products spun from American-grown hemp: twine of various kinds for tying and upholster's work; rope for marine rigging and towing; for hay forks, derricks, and heavy duty tackle; light duty firehose; thread for shoes for millions of American soldiers; and parachute webbing for our paratroopers. As for the United States Navy, every battleship requires 34,000 feet of rope. Here in the Boston Navy Yard, where cables for frigates were made long ago, crews are now working night and day making cordage for the fleet. In the old days rope yarn was spun by hand. The rope yarn feeds through holes in an iron plate. This is Manila hemp from the Navy's rapidly dwindling reserves. When it is gone, American hemp will go on duty again: hemp for mooring ships; hemp for tow lines; hemp for tackle and gear; hemp for countless naval uses both on ship and shore. Just as in the days when Old Ironsides sailed the seas victorious with her hempen shrouds and hempen sails. Hemp for victory. ●





Mel Frank's



MARIJUANA FORUM

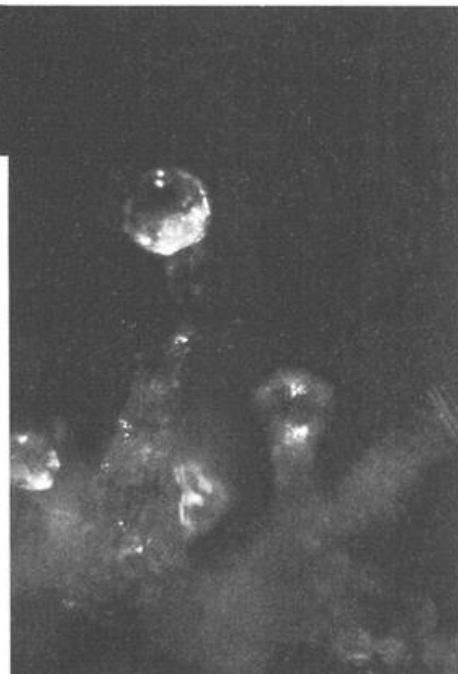
Dear Readers: HIGH TIMES has asked me to write a column to replace "R's" and D.C.'s defunct Cannabis Connoisseur columns. Unfortunately, I am not in the cannabis buying loop, having realized 20 years ago that it's better to grow than to buy. However, I am familiar with the general market and intimately familiar with most of the exotic varieties coveted by commercial and home growers.

But whenever I talk to cannabis

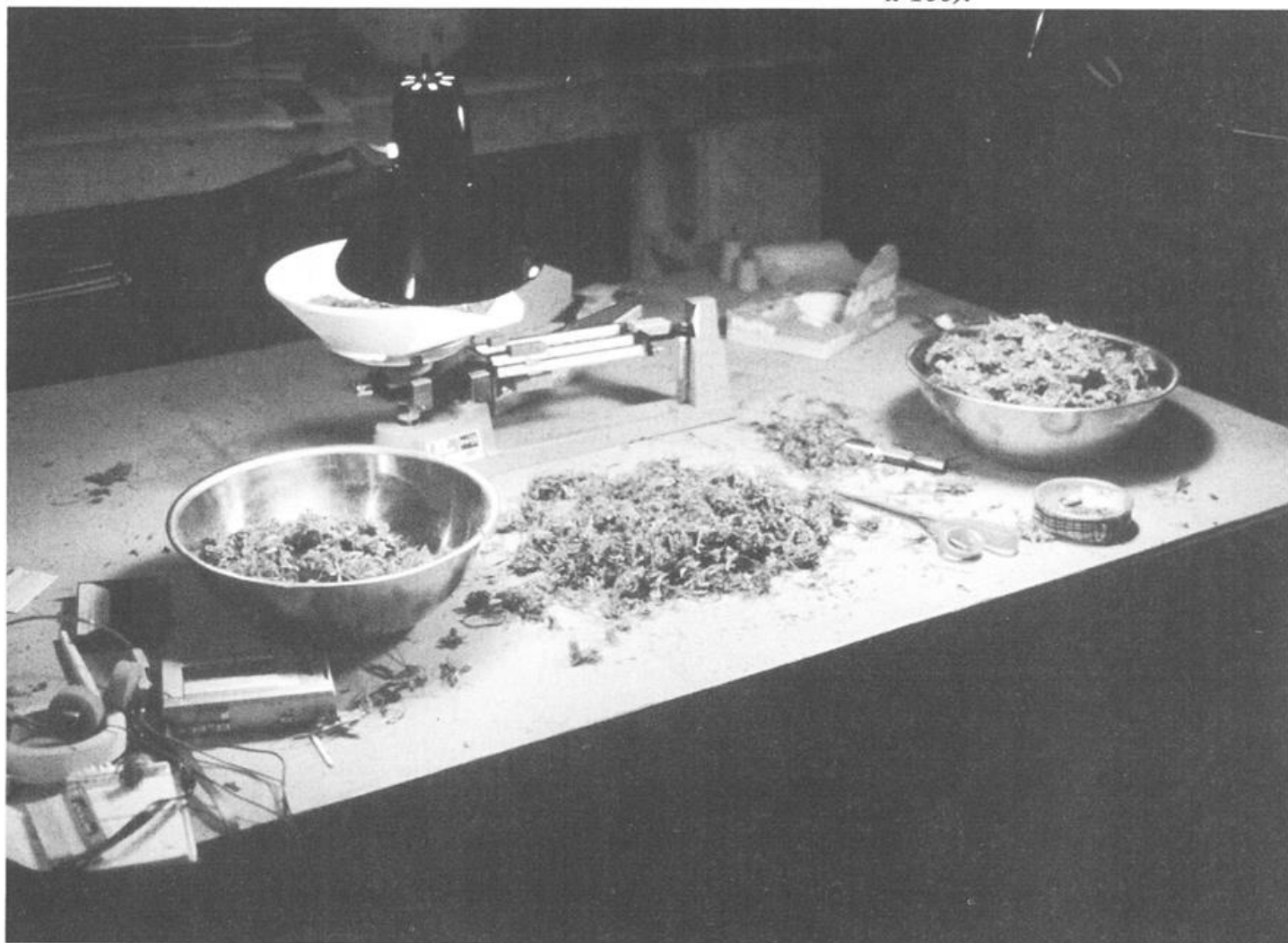
afficionados, I'm struck by their allegiances to what I think of as "long gone lore" or basic misconceptions. What I hope this column will do is help to educate consumers and growers about the reality of consuming and growing marijuana.

So please ASK. Tell me what you wonder, what your concerns are, and please challenge anything that seems contradictory. This won't be

continued on page 60



Resin Gland (photomicrograph x 100).



Processing and buying.

"THE ULTIMATE HIPPIE"



THE LIFE AND HIGH TIMES OF THOMAS KING FORÇADE

by John Holmstrom

Tom Forçade was born on September 11th, 1945, in Hayward, California. His father, Kenneth, is remembered as the toughest guy who ever lived.

Even though he weighed only 170 pounds, he was an outstanding college football player. Lining up in the backfield, in the now-defunct position of running guard, he was a ferocious blocker and a formidable ballcarrier. According to the "Forçade Legend," Kenneth was never knocked off his feet on the playing field. True or not, this statement underlines a family belief that Tom Forçade lived by: by force of will, you can do anything.

For fun, Tom's father was in the habit of visiting the toughest saloon he could find, and announcing in a loud voice that he could whip anyone in the bar. As each eager opponent left his barstool to take their turn at the smaller man, he'd knock them silly, one by one.

This unyielding intensity drove him to great accomplishments in his chosen field, engineering. After serving in World War II as a civil engineer on the Alaskan highway, he traveled the world, planning and building massive construction projects, from airports to factories.

In 1957, when Tom was only 11, his father died in a car crash. This sudden, tragic event forced Tom's mother to take a job and find a permanent home. After a lifetime of moving, the family (Tom, his mother and sister) returned to their roots and settled down in Phoenix, Arizona.

Tom's mother remembers her son as a model child, "very sensitive, shy and patriotic---a good Boy Scout and Explorer. He hated controversy of any kind." Although Tom's father was gone, he was never forgotten. At school, when friends would talk about their parents, Tom would talk about his dad as if he were still alive. Friends of the family would often remind Tom how wonderful his father was---and how difficult it would be for Tom to live up to his father's accomplishments.

Between 1959 and 1963, he went to West High School, which he nicknamed "Waste High." After graduating with high marks, Tom entered the University of Utah at Salt

drugs and the emerging counterculture estranged him from his wife, resulting in an amicable divorce. He got out of his military commitment as well, by convincing the Air Guard he was totally, legally insane.

Tom began a new life, devoting himself to the anti-war effort and the counterculture. He changed his first and last names, adopting his grandmother's maiden name, Forçade, as his own. He wanted to protect his family from the controversy he knew he would be involved in.

Perhaps if the Vietnam War had never happened, Tom Forçade would have never existed. The person who named himself Tom Forçade would have settled down in Phoenix and raced cars for kicks. "The war was the overriding thing," Ed Rosenthal recalls. "You could listen to music, and you could get high, and have a good time, but the war was going on. While we were having a good time, somebody in Vietnam or Cambodia was getting killed. That we were having a psychedelic revolution while the war was going on was not a pretty thought when you were tripping."

FREE LSD WITH EVERY ISSUE

In 1966, John Wilcock, Walter Bowart and Alan Katzman, started the Underground Press Syndicate, while editing and publishing the *East Village Other* (EVO), one of the flagship newspapers of the Movement. Ironically, UPS began when a Congressman warned the country about a "syndicate of underground newspapers." Wilcock, Bowart, and Katzman figured, "Why not?" They mentioned the idea during a *Time* magazine interview. As soon as the other newspaper editors saw the idea, they called each other up and it was off and running. At first, it was run as a loose confederation, allowing members to reprint each other's articles, a way to keep in touch with each other. The five original members of UPS were *EVO*, the *Los Angeles Free Press*, *Berkeley Barb*, *Fifth Estate*, *San Francisco Oracle* and *The Paper*. The UPS offices, located in the Fillmore East, served as a magnet for radical activity. Dana Beal shared office space there, running the New York Provos and organizing the first smoke-in in 1967. The term "underground press" came from World War II, when existentialist philosopher Jean-Paul Sartre edited *Combat* for the French Underground---the resistance movement against Nazi occupation. The '60s underground "counterculture" attempted to unite many disparate elements---radical students, left-over beatniks, apolitical hippies, "street people" (the homeless), civil rights activists and rebellious adolescents---into an alternative society that was "counter," or against, everything that white, middle-class society had stood for (especially America's version of apartheid, "segregation," and the "undeclared" Vietnam War).

Having moved into a new hippie abode, Tom now set out to publish an underground magazine of his own. But after a few phone calls to UPS, he decided to offer his assistance to them instead. Understaffed and underfunded, UPS gladly accepted. As national coordinator, he formed a legal corporation; arranged for a national advertising representative who sold ads for all the papers; compiled an underground

press directory; collected a permanent library of underground periodicals, books and films; struck a microfilm deal with Bell and Howell that distributed member newspapers to libraries all over the world (and paid royalties); and started a clipping service, which scanned the underground press for mentions of their clients, one of whom was the Beatles.

UPS helped set up the "event of the century"---Woodstock. Mike Forman's Concert Hall in Philadelphia served as national ad rep for UPS and did media buying and program books for Woodstock. Forgotten in the recent nostalgia over Woodstock was the reason it became so successful---Woodstock was promoted almost exclusively through the underground press and FM radio (dubbed "underground" radio back then). Woodstock's promoters also "gave at the office"---Tom Forçade and Mike Forman were members of the group, led by Abbie Hoffman and the Yippies, that successfully "leaned on" the promoters of Woodstock in a "shakedown" that netted \$10,000 for various counterculture groups.

Coordinating the syndicate was just one of Tom's endeavors. The floating psychedelic periodical *Orpheus* was his pet project---the forerunner to *HIGH TIMES*.



The Orpheus psychedelic bus traveled across the country, serving as a mobile office.

Lake City in 1963. A friend, who remembered him as "Junior," described him as a shy but friendly hot rod freak whose favorite pastime was racing his black '40s-era buggy on the Bonneville Salt Flats, outracing police cars that would try to catch him speeding.

His rebellion soon shifted from fast cars to drugs. "He walked into the dorm and guys were smoking marijuana," a close friend recalled. "Everybody was doing it and he just did it." Although Tom liked to smoke pot and experiment with psychedelics, drug use didn't seem to interfere with his studies. In 1966, taking only three years, he graduated with honors and received a degree in business administration. He then tried to settle down. He got a regular job and married his college sweetheart. To avoid the draft, he entered the Air Guard, the air force equivalent of the National Guard.

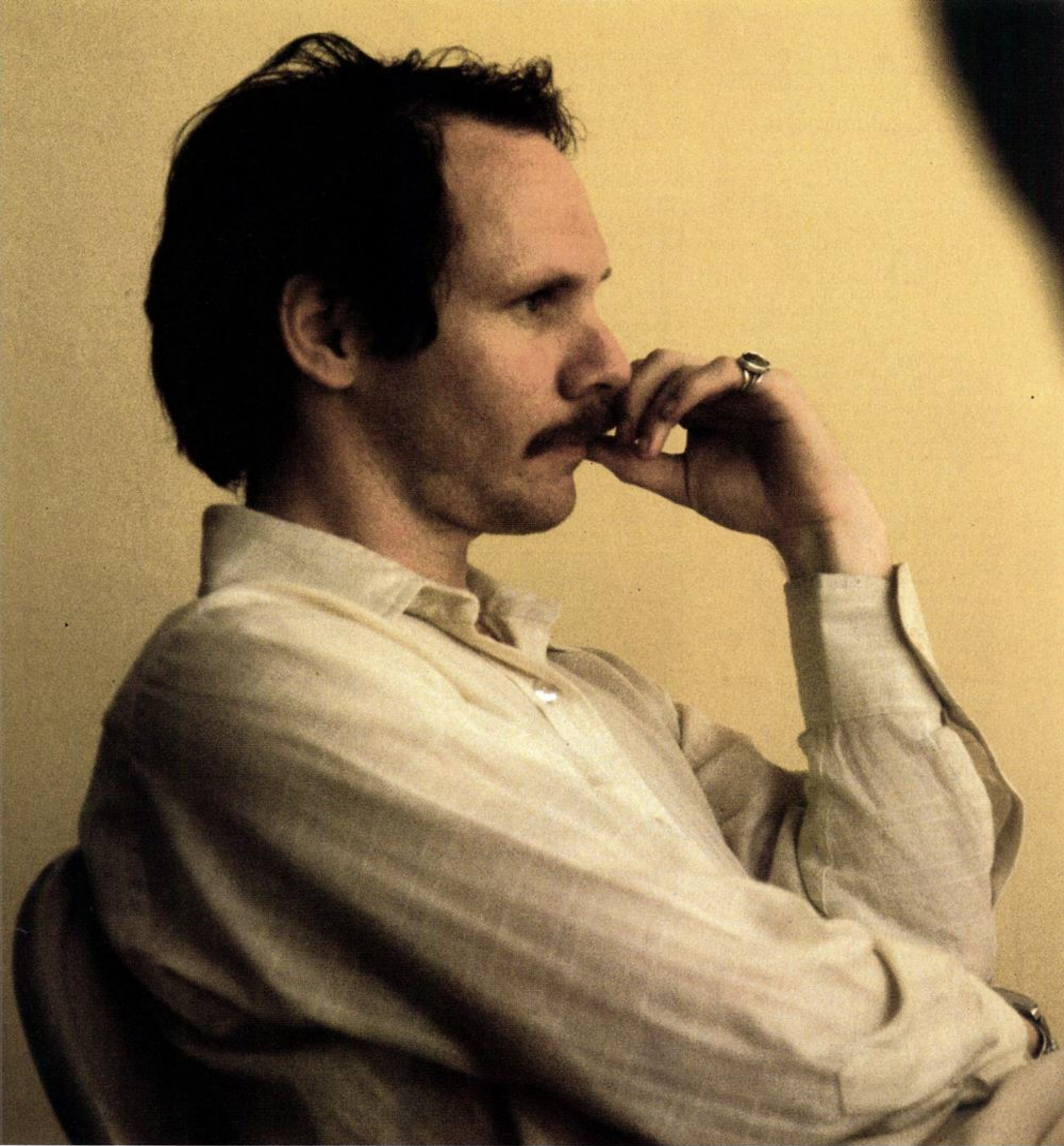
But it didn't work. Tom's interests in



The magazine "shot with a gun."

Six to twelve people roamed the country in a 1946-vintage school-bus, putting out the bi-monthly anthology of articles, columns and cartoons from UPS. One issue featured a bullet hole in the middle of a peace sign on the cover---a real bullet hole. Forçade took each bundle of magazines and shot them with a Colt .45 automatic. He designed the entire magazine so the bullet hole became an integral part of each page layout. The magazine's radical style led police to believe Forçade was capable of anything.

Things came to a head when police raided the UPS offices in the summer of 1969. The police suspected that *Orpheus* had been distributing LSD by printing windowpane acid on the cover of the magazine. Although dismissed on November 20, 1969 for lack of evidence, the charges made it difficult for Forçade to continue running his businesses. Forçade complained bitterly about how the police smashed a stereo, dumped files and



ransacked the UPS library.

When a local newspaper interviewed Forçade later that year, the reporter described his house as an armed camp, barbed wire covering the windows. "Did you notice the charred marks on the house when you came in?" Forçade asked. "Two weeks ago, someone threw a bomb on the porch. We found another bomb that didn't go off."

Shortly before leaving for New York, a cousin confronted him about his life-style,

asking, "Why, when you have been given every opportunity, are you living on a subsistence level in an old house and playing around with a bunch of hippies?"

Tom answered in very serious tones. When he had first become a hippie, he went into a small cowboy town with some of his friends. The police decided to have some "fun" with the hippie freaks, beating the living hell out of them. One was disfigured for life, while the other nearly died from his injuries.

"If you knew Tom," remembers his cousin, "that was it. There was no going back. He opposed the police, government officials, and anyone else who showed a tendency towards oppression."

Whether this story was part of the "Forçade Legend" or the absolute truth, by the time he exited Phoenix, Tom had become so paranoid and obsessed with police brutality that he dressed in black robes and a parson's hat and called himself "Reverend Forçade." When the *Orpheus* bus

ran into trouble with the police, the Reverend Forçade began preaching about God while everyone in his congregation sang hymns.

PAPER REVOLUTIONARIES

Because New York City was one of the counterculture's biggest breeding grounds, when Tom moved there, it was easy for him to set up operations. His new organization, called the Free Ranger Tribe, promoted New York City rock concerts, while Tom oversaw the operation of, traveled on behalf of, and wrote for UPS.

Although he had escaped Phoenix, the police still hounded him. In November 1969, Forçade was arrested and thrown in jail at the El Cortez Hotel in San Diego for desecrating the American flag—he was wearing a small flag in his hat band. In town for the Sigma Delta Chi press convention (a meeting of the national fraternity of newspaper editors, reporters and publishers), the group's president spent four hours getting Forçade out of jail. Upon his release Tom stalked into the panel discussion on the underground press, threw a glass at the press table, accused Sigma Delta Chi of causing his arrest and the delegates of being hypocrites, and asked everyone who had tried marijuana to raise their hands. Afterwards, he apologized for throwing the glass and passed a hat to collect bail money.

On May 13, 1970, Forçade catapulted to national prominence when he appeared before the United States Commission on Obscenity and Pornography in Washington, DC. Reading a 1,000 word statement, dotted with four-letter words, he called the commission "unconstitutional, unlawful, prehistoric, obscene, absurd" and pronounced it "political repression in the thin but transparent guise of obscenity."

When Otto Larsen, professor of sociology from the University of Washington, asked, "Would you mind explaining to me how we have engaged in 'McCarthyism' witch hunts and inquisitorial hearings?" Tom answered, "I think I have the material in my box to explain that."

Walking over to Larsen, Forçade placed a large cardboard box on the rostrum, uncovered a cream pie hidden under some papers and smacked Larsen in the face with it. As cream pie dripped down his face, Larsen, apparently unperturbed, persisted, "Don't bug me. I'm asking you a question. Is that what you had in mind? How did we do that?"

"You're violating the Constitution," Forçade answered calmly, as Capitol police stood by, open-mouthed.

The commission chairman then announced, "Mr. Forçade, I guess we've had enough from you." Tom calmly gathered up his box, and the pie plate, and left.

Months later, at an underground press conference, Forçade urged his fellow journalists to become outlaws. "If people had real courage," he told a reporter, "they wouldn't even think twice about becoming outlaws. They already would be."

"People talk about peace. I'm into love, I'm not into peace. I don't want peace. I want life. I associate peace with graveyards. I associate peace with stagnation."

One of the biggest roadblocks for the underground press was accreditation. The system did not recognize the validity of the underground press as a credible, viable news

organization. Without proper credentials, underground news-gatherers were denied access to important events, and reporting news was almost impossible. Backed by the ACLU, Tom sued to win the right to a White House press pass.

In May, he came to Washington with the express purpose of setting up a three-member news bureau for UPS, which now claimed 600 different newspapers and 100 radio stations. After a long court battle, topped off by a week of debate among newsmen, he was admitted to the Senate and House press galleries in September 1971—over the protest of some members of the gallery and in spite of the fact that he had called the Standing Committee of Correspondents, who had admitted him by a vote of 3 to 2, a "group of puppet journalists." However, he continued to be denied access to the White House. John W. Warner, Jr., the Secret Service public relations director at the time (and now the Republican Senator from Virginia, best known for marrying Liz Taylor), barred him for security reasons, on grounds that he posed a threat to President Nixon's safety.

Tom noted that he was only 5' 7" and 120 pounds, and asked reporters, "Do I look like a dangerous man?" before adding, "They just don't want me in there asking



AP/WIDE WORLD

Throwing the pie brought instant cult hero status to Forçade.

embarrassing questions at the President's press conferences"—words that became prophetic. He continued his lawsuit for his rights as a reporter, which eventually allowed him to become the first American citizen to gain access to his FBI files.

SEX AND DRUGS AND ROCK 'N' ROLL

In the spring of 1970, Forçade became involved with Winter's End, one of the more bizarre post-Woodstock rock festivals. His old friend Michael Forman had put up the front money for the festival, which was promoted and handled by most of the Woodstock crew. It was hoped that the Woodstock connection would deliver a rerun of the previous summer's magic. Instead, a postal strike killed ticket sales, an air-traffic controller's strike prevented name bands from playing, a new law was passed specifically outlawing rock festivals, and police secured an injunction to shut it down. The promoters couldn't find a site until three days before the event. Once they did, they gave up on the event. But sixty thousand

hippies didn't. They invaded the concert area, and waited for the festival to begin.

Then they organized it. An army of bikers and hippie communes known as The Family took over security. Five hundred volunteers helped build the stage, aided by technicians who were now working for nothing. Tom Forçade took over the management. He convinced police to open the roads, organized security, and assembled a small staff of errand runners. When state troopers arrived to close the show, "festival security" met them with chains, clubs, and a few Thompson submachine guns.

In terms of fun, Winter's End was one of the most successful rock festivals ever. Johnny Winter, playing three times, stole the show, while the Allman Brothers, Santana and Mountain (with Leslie West) appeared, along with an assortment of local groups. What made it unforgettable was an abundance of MDA, the "love drug." "As a result, there was probably more fucking at Winter's End than any festival before or since," Forçade wrote in an unpublished memoir. "It was sex, dope and rock and roll versus law and order all the way."

A few months later, in July 1970, Forçade was involved in the mirror-image of Winter's End, the "Randall's Island People's Pop Festival."

Among Forçade's many political affiliations was a group known as the White Panthers, who believed, as Tom put it, that "rock promoters were sucking money out of the hip culture." Forçade led the Panthers against the promoters of the "New York Pop Festival" which was to be held on Randall's Island, a small island off of Manhattan. The White Panthers were soon joined by the Rip-Off Collective, set up specifically to shake down capitalist exploiters of hip culture. At first, the radicals' demands were ignored. Then the Young Lords, the Puerto Rican equivalent of the Black Panthers, took their turn, demanding a percentage of the profits, cash up front, and speakers and bands on the program.

By now, Woodstock had set a precedent. Because Abbie Hoffman, the Yippies and UPS had successfully shaken down Woodstock promoters for a piece of the pie, it was now expected that all concert promoters would give money to the Movement. Worse for concert promoters, audiences now expected, and demanded, that all outdoor music festivals be just like Woodstock—FREE. Who needed a ticket anymore?

Harassment and threats from radicals, as well as slow ticket sales, soon wore down the promoters, who turned the show over to the Panthers, Young Lords, and Rip-Off Collective. The concert became the "New York People's Pop Festival," the first festival co-sponsored and promoted by The Movement.

The debacle that followed heaped ridicule and criticism on the event, and the new promoters took the blame. The White Panthers tried to sell tickets, but the Rip-Off Collective turned against them and helped mobs of gate-crashers by wiping out padlocked fences with bolt-cutters. The crowds were typically New York—unruly and obnoxious—and booed the Panthers, Lords and Rip-Off Collective as they gave speeches and fought amongst themselves for control of the show. Forçade got injured, breaking his ankle while jumping off the



The Medicine Ball Caravan meets the Caravan of Pirates (left to right): Chan Laughlin (in floppy hat), Tom Forcade (with drumsticks), Ron Rosenbaum (in sunglasses and beard) David Peel (in sunglasses and cheap vest), The Star Car (under Peel and Forcade).

stage. Randall's Island is now mainly remembered for Jimi Hendrix's performance (preserved on the 2-record set, *The Jimi Hendrix Concerts*, and the film, *Free*).

Two weeks later, in August of 1970, Forcade was invited to join another debacle of sorts, the Medicine Ball Caravan.

THE CARAVAN OF GREED AND MONEY

Warner Brothers, flushed with the success of the *Woodstock* movie, now planned an event that would cash in on the youth culture, in a big way—a movie built around the hippie fantasy of a psychedelic bus caravan. This "Caravan of Love" would leave from San Francisco, travel across the country, playing concerts on the way, and end up in England for the Isle of Wight rock festival. Warner Brothers hired Mike Forman to help promote it, and one of the first people he called upon was old pal Tom Forcade. He was hoping Tom would write about the caravan for UPS, and provide some excitement along with a bit of much-needed political perspective.

Forcade was only too happy to oblige, and immediately went about creating a "counter-caravan." He "liberated" a late-model Cadillac limousine, painted it olive drab with large white army stars on each side, built a platform which served as a stage on top of the roof, and mounted two gigantic speakers on it. The speakers, each of which had a range of five miles, had somehow been obtained from a Minute Man missile site (they had originally been intended for use by Civil Defense to warn the public of an enemy attack). Forcade armed the car with firecrackers, skyrockets,

smoke bombs, flares, picket signs, squirt guns, cap pistols, marking pens, paint, brushes, White Panther leaflets, a megaphone, a movie-scene clapboard, two bootleg telephones, a typewriter, underground newspapers, a 16-mm Bolex camera, a gasoline generator, amplifiers, microphones, bubble machine and several spare tires.

Caravan insiders, aware of his distaste for what they were doing, nicknamed him "Captain Bad Vibes," his Cadillac "The Star Car," and kept him at arm's length throughout the show, but Tom stole their thunder anyhow. The highlight of the film, as well as two books written about the event, was the knife fight.

It all started when Tom arranged for David Peel to join his "Caravan of Pirates." The Medicine Ball Caravan turned wacko in Ohio, when David Peel was attacked by a caravan heavy with a knife.

Tom had driven the Star Car onto the Antioch College campus, and David Peel began singing through the Minute Man speakers, when students poured out of the classrooms to boo and jeer. They thought Peel was pulling off a promotional stunt for the Caravan. (Thanks to the underground press, they'd been alerted to what a cultural rip-off it was.) One campus radical screamed at Tom Forcade, Minister of Information for the White Panther Party, "If the White Panthers were here, they'd rip this off!"

Tom found the whole scene quite hilarious. His counter-caravan was being confused with the real one, and he was being victimized by his own politics.

David Peel stopped singing to denounce

Warner Brothers, while angry students surrounded Forcade to attack the film. When the film crew arrived, Forcade attacked one of them, pushing the lens away from the action, but the cameraman got up and kept filming. Chan Laughlin, the caravan "camp boss" and resident heavyweight, attempted to take charge, denouncing David Peel as a troublemaker. Peel answered that Chan was a flunky for Warner Bros. They argued for several minutes.

"You're all sitting around here on your asses doing nothing and whining about a movie rip-off," Chan shouted, "when you don't have the balls to go out into the world and do something worth filming. What we're doing is ripping off Warner Brothers. They're letting us make our movie with their money."

As Peel recalls, "I saw a silver Nazi emblem on the guy's hat. So he yelled, 'Who do you think you are giving orders?' 'Who am I? I'm JEWISH and you're HITLER for Warner Brothers!'"

Chan went ape-shit. He grabbed Peel by the vest, which immediately ripped to shreds. "It was a very old, cheap vest which I got from a hand-out store in the Village," David says, "and it was so cheap, it ripped right apart. It saved my life."

While Chan stared at the vest in his hands, Peel took off. Chan then dropped the vest, went for the knife in his hip pocket sheath, jumped on top of the car, pulled out the knife and snarled at Peel, "No motherfucker calls me Hitler!"

Before Chan could slice Peel, Forcade and Billy White, a member of Peel's entourage, tackled him, wrestling the knife away.



JOHN FARRELL

Gabrielle and Tom Forcade in 1977.

Medicine Ball Caravan bombed upon its release in early '71. Warner Brothers, unhappy with the rough cut that director Francois Reichenbach delivered, called in Martin Scorsese, whose previous credits included editing most of the performance footage of *Woodstock*, to save it. He improved it, but nothing could save this turkey. Warner Brothers attempted to recoup their investment by promoting the "live soundtrack," which featured a studio track by Alice Cooper with canned applause added.

On caravan's end, at the Isle of Wight in England, Tom went to Paris to cover the Viet Cong delegation during the peace talks and opened negotiations to put on a rock festival in North Vietnam.

THE KLEIN SWINE DEMONSTRATION

A few months later, George Harrison's Bangladesh benefit concert (the Live-Aid of its day), and the resultant *Concert for Bangladesh* triple-record set (which featured Harrison, Bob Dylan, Ringo Starr, Ravi Shankar, Billy Preston, Leon Russell and friends) were the rock events of the year. But questions soon arose about how much of the money was actually going to feed the starving people of Bangladesh. Forcade, A.J. Weberman, and several other radicals, all members of the recently formed Rock Liberation Front (RLF), decided to take matters into their own hands.

Twenty sign-carrying members of the RLF showed up at the offices of Allen Klein (who managed both the Rolling Stones and the Beatles), carrying bushel baskets of rotten apples, tomatoes and lettuce for the ironically titled "Free Food Program for Starving Music Execs." Phil Spector, who produced the Bangladesh benefit album (pocketing 20 cents a platter), provided a lot of fireworks when he defended Klein. "It's

only been four fucking months since we've been doing the fucking album! What about four months ago? Why didn't ya ask George Harrison? He was in New York for three fucking weeks and for three months in fucking Los Angeles mixing the album... Aw, the truth is a big waste of time."

Spector then challenged a reporter to a fist fight. Someone broke it up just as the reporter was about to slug him. Spector then grabbed a woman by the throat, held her up against a wall, threatening, "Call your man off or I'll karate chop you in the throat."

When Spector turned to A.J. Weberman to toss him out, Weberman grabbed him by the collar and smacked his face, screaming, "The next time I hit you, capitalist scumbag, it'll be a punch in the nose AND YOU'LL NEVER BE ABLE TO SNORT COKE AGAIN!"

The RLF members were soon escorted out of the offices by security forces, but came back a few days later. Demanding the three million dollars that Allen Klein's company, ABKco, owed the Bangladesh relief funds from record sales, Tom Forcade fought past Klein, entered the corporate offices, and the Rock Liberation Front began throwing rotten fruit and vegetables all over the room. NBC-TV News taped and later broadcast the incident.

Although most people defended Harrison, Spector and Klein (after all, a Beatle was involved!), the Klein Swine demonstration was successful guerilla theater, broadcast into the homes of millions of people, boldly revealing the inner workings of a big-name, charity rock event as eerily similar to the backroom of a Las Vegas casino.

THE MOVEMENT ON TRIAL

In November, 1970, Abbie Hoffman met with Forcade, forming a partnership, Pirate Editions, to arrange for publication of *Steal*

This Book. Despite his contributions to the Movement, because of best-sellers, *Revolution For The Hell Of It!* and *Woodstock Nation*, people were giving Abbie flack for "selling out." In response, he wanted to do a revolutionary handbook so outrageous that only the underground could handle it. Starting with the best of intentions, the idea ultimately led to a dispute over authorship. The bitter fallout that resulted tore apart what was left of the now-dwindling Woodstock Nation.

By January 1971, Forcade had rewritten, copy-edited, proofread, and pasted up *Steal This Book* at the UPS offices. Occupied with the Chicago Seven trial, Hoffman was unable to come to a financial agreement with Forcade or Izak Haber, the young Yippie who wrote the original manuscript. Some charged that Abbie had pulled a fast one--hired one guy to write the book and another guy to rewrite, edit and get it ready for the printer---then put his own name on it.

Tom and Abbie agreed to have the dispute settled by a "Movement Court," presided over by respected counterculture figures. For three weeks, the court heard testimony and deliberated on Forcade's claim. Abbie argued that Tom's work had been worth \$500, and that his own mere presence at the Movement Court proved his innocence of the charges. When he discovered that the judges were close friends of Abbie's, Tom felt he'd lost already.

In his testimony, Tom explained that people mistrusted him because of all the UPS money that went through his hands. He frequently had to fend off charges of being a hippie capitalist. "All our books are checked," he complained, "and still, people have this image in their mind that anyone handling a quarter of a million dollars must have something shady going on."

"Historically," Tom stated regretfully, "anybody who works in business or with

money is considered a rip-off, and it's been a drag for me."

The judges' decision was that the case could best be settled by a "Karma Alignment," a compromise aimed at ending the hostilities: a \$1,000 judgment for Forcade, plus 10,000 books, at cost (17 cents apiece). Tom had sought \$5,000.

Both men claimed victory, but felt they'd lost. Tom seethed when he encountered difficulties collecting the \$1,000 judgment from Abbie. Abbie, on the other hand, felt his credibility had been forever damaged. The rift between them grew, and split the Yippies into two different camps--the Pro-Abbie and the Pro-Tom factions.

The dissension continued. In January 1972, four years after the Yippies had formed for the sole purpose of disrupting the Chicago Democratic convention, big disagreements arose over what tactics to use at the upcoming conventions. Tom was among the few who argued that violent anti-war demonstrations should continue. Many others in the anti-war movement believed this played right into enemy hands. Forcade came to the conclusion that the Yippies had become fossilized. He decided to split off from the Yippies and start his own organization, the Zippies (ZIP: Zeitgeist International Party).

This new move outraged Hoffman. In May, at a meeting called to iron out their differences, Abbie and the Yippies orchestrated an attack on Forcade, expelling him from YIP and accusing him of being a "police provocateur and/or a maniac." The stage was set for a monumental confrontation.

RIOT IN MIAMI BEACH

A year before the 1972 presidential conventions in Miami, Tom Forcade met Gabrielle Schang through mutual friend, John Wilcock. They started dating a few months later, but Gabrielle became suspicious of his frequent, mysterious disappearances. When Tom neglected to tell her about the Zippies after forming his new group, she became very angry. Shortly after, her friends Abbie Hoffman and Jerry Rubin began their campaign against Forcade, and convinced her that he was a government agent. "They knew he was going to start Zippie," Gabrielle recalls, "and that they were over the hill, in Tom's view. They were scared of what he was gonna do." Today, Gabrielle says she felt "brainwashed" by the Yippie faction into thinking that Tom was a government agent--a rumor that would haunt him the rest of his life, and eventually spread to HIGH TIMES. "I honestly believed that," she says. "I was very naive."

Tom tried to change Gabrielle's mind, to no avail. Tripping on acid and very upset, he took a New York City cab all the way down to Miami and drove to the dorm the Yippies were staying at. He tried to convince her to leave the Yippies and join the Zippies. She thought he was deranged, and refused to meet with him. She didn't think of his behavior as a romantic act at the time.

John Wilcock figures, "A lot of the animosity with the Zippies and the Yippies was directly attributable to Tom's jealousy over Gabrielle leaving him and going out with Ed Sanders." Sanders, the ex-Fug who, at the time had just written *The Family*, a



AP/WIDE WORLD

After the trial, Tom refused to shake Abbie's hand. (The judge, Meyer Vishner, sits in the middle.)

best-seller about the Charles Manson cult, has refused to speak about Forcade with HIGH TIMES. Apparently, he has not forgotten the old days--like the time he and Gabrielle found the "unbreakable" windshield of his new Land Rover smashed to pieces.

According to Aron Kay (the Yippie "Pie Man" who, taking his cue from Tom, became infamous for throwing pies in the faces of anyone he deemed politically incorrect), Tom wouldn't have smashed the windshield, or even asked someone to do it for him. Strange things just happened, because of the old "Yippie curse"--hurt one of us and you hurt all of us.

Although a virtual "tent city" of radical protesters and demonstrators camped out at the Miami conventions in greater numbers than in 1968, crowds of radical youth were on the wane after the 1971 May Day march on Washington, D.C., which resulted in 12,000 arrests. The increasing violence and likelihood of arrest at political protests in the early '70s began keeping people away. In Miami, 2,000 local and state police officers were in attendance, 5,000 federal troops and National Guardsmen were on standby, and countless undercover and FBI agents were busily infiltrating every radical political group. The Yippies had even bigger problems--dozens of organizers from around the country had been arrested.

The Democratic convention was fairly mild. On July 9th, a smoke-in was held, featuring six gallons of spiked lemonade, which attracted the biggest crowds at the convention. During a Wheelchairs for Wallace March on July 11, the Zippies pushed a wheelchair with an effigy of George Wallace, the pro-segregationist, "law and order" candidate, into the ocean. The highlight of the convention was when Tom and girlfriend, Cindy Ornsteen, managed to get two police agents to help them steal Lyndon Baines Johnson's official portrait from the convention hall. The painting was later torched at an anti-war rally.

The Republican convention in August was a different story altogether. In one incident, a bus carrying the entire South Carolina delegation was captured by protesters, who slashed their tires, jumped

up and down on the roof, and threw water underneath, telling delegates it was gasoline. The demonstrators' biggest coup was their infiltration of the area near air-conditioning intakes for the convention hall. When police flooded the area with tear gas, there was hardly a dry eye inside the convention, and delegates were seen on live TV dabbing their eyes with handkerchiefs.

Yip/Zip infighting reached its height as the Yippies distributed a flyer that read:

WANTED TOM FORCADE

Tom Forcade dealt hard drugs and strung out a local organizer for the VVAW. This Vietnam Veteran under heavy drug influence talked with the police five hours conjuring up false tales about the veterans.

This man uses his ample money and drugs to control people. His actions have been disruptive and suspicious. It is wise to avoid him.

ETERNAL VIGILANCE IS THE PRICE OF LIBERTY ANTI HEROIN AND HARD DRUGS COMMITTEE

Freedom of Information Act files later revealed that the flyer had been provided by FBI agents who infiltrated the Yippies, manipulating them into discrediting Tom Forcade. The false rumors would follow him for the rest of his life.

On August 23, while Nixon was giving his acceptance speech, Tom and the Zippies set up an anti-war rock opera, *Eat the Rich*, performed by The Gooks. Before the show, police searched the flatbed truck rented for the show, and found gasoline and "other items suitable for assembling fire bombs" in the truck. Besides one five-gallon can of All-State oil, was a can with "wax-like material in it with a wick coming out" was found, a candle Cindy Ornsteen was using as an ashtray. After the truck was searched and several items removed, it was permitted to go on to the convention site. Tom, however, was kept in custody for reckless driving.

Before the show could begin, police tear-gassed the stage, forcing The Gooks off the stage, but not before 15 seconds of fame on live international TV.

On February 8, 1973, a federal grand jury for the Southern District of Florida handed



The Wheelchairs for Wallace March.

down sealed indictments of Tom Forçade and Cindy Ornstein. The arrests were an obvious smokescreen to draw media attention away from the recently disclosed Watergate burglary--the firebombs were The Gooks' smokepots. The trial, held a month later, took all of two days to complete, and featured testimony by undercover agents who had infiltrated the conventions and bomb manufacture experts, who confirmed that the candles were not firebombs. Federal Judge Faye, a friend of Nixon's former campaign manager, acquitted Tom and Cindy.

In the meantime, Tom developed plans for a new project, one more outrageous than any of his other adventures--a drug magazine. Cindy Ornstein remembers discussing the idea while she and Tom were hiding out in Florida after the Miami conventions. "The purpose of the magazine," she says, "was to make recreational drug use acceptable, and if it made money, to use the money toward the legalization of marijuana, and to change the consciousness of America about drugs as an accepted life style."

THE ORIGIN OF HIGH TIMES

Ed Rosenthal was in New York the first time the idea of a drug magazine was brought up at the UPS office. "We were thinking of putting out a drugs news service," says Ed, "that would go to all of the newspapers and magazines. So I took some government statistics and figured out there were 20 million pot smokers. It came to us that there were the numbers for a magazine here."

To launch the new publication, Tom rented a ballroom at the National Boutique Show in 1973, which featured about 100 drug paraphernalia dealers. A promotional flyer, with a long list of article ideas, was published. "We were the hit of the Boutique Show," recalls Ed Dwyer, *HIGH TIMES*' first editor-in-chief, "because, at the time, it was filled with a lot of paraphernalia

companies. It should have been called the National Paraphernalia Show. Joints were dispensed, gas was dispensed, the line outside was incredible. This is how we made an awful lot of good contacts, and did a lot of good public relations--by keeping people high."

The first issue was put together in early 1974. Several editorial meetings were held, which included Tom's circle of friends, like Ed Rosenthal, Dana Beal, Cindy Ornstein and John Wilcock. Some of the first ideas batted around were a Highwitness News section (lifted from Rex Weiner's now-defunct *New York Ace* which published Tom's UPS columns from Washington) and Trans-High Market Quotations. Once the concept came together, the work was completed in a very short time. After considering titles like *Tilt* and *National Weed*, they decided the magazine would be called *HIGH TIMES*. The first cover featured a woman eating a mushroom, a nonpsychedelic variety they bought at a supermarket. "We wanted it to come off as an unthreatening, upbeat presentation of the act of getting high," Ed Dwyer remembers. A modest print run of 10,000 copies sold out immediately.

Andy Kowl, whose only previous experience had been a small Long Island newspaper called *The Express*, worked as business manager and publisher of the new venture. As he recalls, "Tom would contact friends of his who were major pot distributors, and they would buy a thousand or two thousand copies at a buck apiece, and give them away."

The magazine sold briskly from any bookstores, newsstands, or head shops brave enough to stock it. "The stories we got, consistently," Andy says, "were that twenty copies would go into a record store, and a guy would walk in and buy all twenty. It was happening all over the country. It was wild."

Since *HIGH TIMES* was a quarterly, there was a long, three-month wait between issues. In the meantime, they printed another

10,000 issues, which also sold out immediately, then another 15,000. They upped the print run for the second issue to 25,000 issues. When that sold out, they printed another 25,000 issues. For the third issue, they printed 50,000 copies, the fourth, 100,000 issues, then 150,000 for the fifth. By now, *HIGH TIMES* was a national phenomenon.

"*HIGH TIMES* was the greatest publishing success story of the '70s," recalls Craig Copetas, who worked as news editor, and chief correspondent for UPS, by now renamed the Alternative Press Syndicate. "*HIGH TIMES* went far beyond its mandate to just report on drugs. We were a viable news operation. We had over 200 radio stations linked to us, and we were feeding daily reports into radio stations."

According to Craig, the news operation was competitive with any magazine, newswire service, or newspaper of the time. *HIGH TIMES* became the embodiment of Tom's vision of a true alternative press syndicate. There were AP, UPI, and Agence France-Presse wires in the office. *HIGH TIMES* and UPS set up foreign bureaus, funding reporters in southeast Asia, South America, Europe, India and behind the Iron Curtain. Many writers from establishment papers, from the *Wall Street Journal* to the *Los Angeles Times*, wrote for *HIGH TIMES* under pseudonyms. Perhaps no other story describes the impact *HIGH TIMES* had on society than its relationship with Jimmy Carter.

"In the fall of 1975," Craig Copetas relates, "Tom said to me, 'Choose a candidate and go follow him. Who do you think is going to be president?' And I just said, 'Maybe this guy Carter.'" *HIGH TIMES* became one of the first publications aboard the Carter press bus. By the time Carter was elected, *HIGH TIMES* knew many of the key people in his administration.

Although Carter had supported decriminalization of marijuana during his campaign, his administration continued Nixon's "War On Drugs," spraying paraquat on marijuana and poppy fields in Mexico. "We spent a fortune traveling through Mexico finding paraquat fields," Copetas recalls. "Paraquat and 2-4D were being sprayed on vegetables instead of fields. They weren't sprayed on the marijuana and opium poppies. Moreover, they were mixing 2-4D and 2-4T, creating Agent Orange."

No one had heard of Agent Orange, but once its use as a defoliant in Vietnam was exposed in *HIGH TIMES*, Vietnam veterans initiated ultimately successful suits against the government. "There were people down there who were drinking this stuff," Copetas continued. "The way we played it was not as a smokers' issue, but as an environmental issue, which was very very important, because it added legitimacy to what we were doing."

Shortly after his election, Carter returned from Germany for his first prime-time press conference. As Copetas describes, "Jimmy made the great mistake of calling on me that night on national television. And I hit him with the paraquat question."

Carter dodged the issue, but questions about paraquat continued to be raised throughout his presidency. And Tom's long, bitter fight for press credentials resulted, as predicted, in embarrassing questions for the

president.

Forçade never took a salary from HIGH TIMES—he was a rich man. His drug activities were going even better than his publishing business. All HIGH TIMES profits went to fund other projects.

One of the first was the *National Weed*. "He wanted to do a *National Enquirer* for the hippie set," recalls Craig Copetas. Printed on color newsprint, it folded after three or four issues, and was incorporated into HIGH TIMES as a magazine within a magazine. Forçade also started *Dealer* magazine, the first "alternative economics magazine" in the country, geared towards head shops and the underground economy.

Once Hoffman and Rubin deserted the party, Tom resumed his support of the Yippies, working on the *Yipster Times* late at night at the YIP offices. "I remember him doing the pasteups, doing headlines, writing up articles," recalls Aron Kay.

Tom continued to support his old friends in the music business, especially those from his Medicine Ball Caravan days, David Peel, and the Lower East Side members Billy Joe White and Tommy Doyle.

One of his favorite projects was the New Morning Bookstore, a large bookstore well-stocked with out-of-the-way publications and periodicals, located in New York's Soho district. To run it, Tom hired Jim Drougas, who he met through Gabrielle Schang.

All had been forgiven between the two. Tom had renewed their affair by inviting her to a HIGH TIMES party he threw in Berkeley, California, when Gabrielle was working for the *Berkeley Barb*. She was covering a big story—the Patty Hearst kidnapping.

In 1974, Patty Hearst, daughter of the Hearst publishing dynasty, was kidnapped by a radical political group who called themselves the Symbionese Liberation Army. One of the major news stories of the '70s, Patty Hearst joined forces with the SLA to rob a bank, and the video of the robbery was shown on national TV. Gabrielle got pulled into the story—she reported receiving communiques from underground, copycat SLA groups. When she wouldn't turn the messages over to the FBI, she was called before a grand jury. "I think Tom saw all this in the papers and it gave him some new respect for me."

Gabrielle eventually moved to New York City. Although she occasionally dated Tom, she dated many other guys. Then, one day, he sent her a passionate love letter—it caused her to fall in love with him. Tom stole her away from the apartment she was sharing with her lover at the time, who worked at HIGH TIMES as an editor. They eloped, flying to Las Vegas and Phoenix for the wedding.

THE DAY TOM KILLED HIGH TIMES

When Tom Forçade received his FBI files on January 16, 1975, he now had tangible proof that his most paranoid fears were true—the government had been keeping track of his activities since he was working in Phoenix on *Orpheus*, way back in 1968. The discovery at about the same time that an undercover police officer was working in the office also unsettled him. So did the visit to the HIGH TIMES offices by the DEA. When they threatened to arrest him unless

he revealed his sources, Tom merely put out his wrists, and dared them to take him away. They left, but the message they delivered remained.

There was a dark side to Tom Forçade. He suffered from a manic-depressive disorder, and from severe seasonal mood swings usually in the late fall and winter. After, and during every wild adventure he went on, the roller-coaster ride would come crashing down.

In the autumn of 1976, after an absence of four months, Tom returned to the HIGH TIMES office. He ordered all of the art boards for the latest issue (January 1977) immediately delivered to his office before they went to the printer. Upon inspection, he threatened to rip the whole magazine into shreds and force the staff to create a new one, from scratch. Then Tom called the office. As Andy Kowl recalls, Tom commanded, "I want you to close the magazine. Your job is terminated. Everybody's job is terminated. Fire



Although he was publisher and editor, Tom Forçade's name didn't appear in HIGH TIMES until after his death.

everybody on the staff."

Tom stormed into the office, ripping the telephone intercom system out of the reception room. Then he headed for the newsroom. Craig Copetas stopped him. "Everyone was running around scared to death," Craig relates, "and I jacked him up against the wall and said, 'Tom, go home and calm down. We're putting out a magazine.'"

Tom then decided that if he couldn't kill it, he'd sell it. Papers were drawn up and a few days later Andy and HIGH TIMES business manager Paul Tornetta met with Tom. At the meeting, Tom asked Jack Coombs, his best friend and fellow White Panther, for a gun. Jack handed over a pistol. Tom gave it to Andy.

Tom told him, "If I have ever misled you or lied to you about this magazine, I want you to kill me."

The gun was put away, and Tom signed the papers, selling all rights. Kowl and Tornetta were walking out the door, when Tom said, "That'll never stand up in court!

I'm out of my mind. I'm not in my right state of mind." Andy said, "Tom! That's fine! It's your magazine! So we gave him back the paper and he gave us back the money," Andy says.

Shortly after that, Tom set up a nonprofit trust fund, and restructured the company, making it more democratic. Jack Coombs, worried about Tom's health, contacted Forçade's family. Tom flew back to Phoenix for a physical examination.

Although his family accepted Tom as he was, they'd always believed that eventually, he'd change. "We thought this was just a publicity stunt," his cousin remembers, "being the ultimate hippie to get publicity, national power, and fame and everything. Then he'd sell the whole thing out, come back to Arizona and be a normal businessman again."

"His father had been a rebel," he continues, "It was a trait of the family that the men, up until they were about thirty, were just wild as hell and mean as hell, but then after that, they would be extremely conservative and excellent citizens."

Aside from the one time, Tom steadfastly refused to sell the magazine. "We were making an awful lot of money," says Craig Copetas. "I remember at one point we could have sold the magazine in 1977 for about eight million dollars."

"Tom would say that he'd walk through the offices of HIGH TIMES," recalls Shelley Levitt, managing editor back then, "and he felt as if he were walking through the midway at a carnival—there was a sort of lunacy going on."

Staff insurrections broke out over the cover policy, committees were formed to make sure no sexist ads were run, and wild parties were thrown every few weeks. Then there was a lot of "research"—when you work at a drug magazine, researching your subject can become a very "high" priority. Tom experimented with everything you could think of, from vanilla extract to airplane glue to alcohol to tobacco. His research went way beyond tasting everything once. He even brewed his own absinthe. But his favorite activity was smuggling. The combination of committing the ultimate act of civil disobedience along with the thrill of flying a plane—as well as making great amounts of cash—made him higher than any drug. Smuggling was in harmony with his principles—he compared the drug smugglers in Florida to the blockade runners of the Revolutionary War.

Once, on one of his mysterious "disappearances," he was in the swamps of Florida, dropping off a delivery for payment, when agents and police arrived. While the other participants froze, Tom grabbed the proceeds of the deal and took off into the swampy woods. His getaway turned into a brutal ordeal that taxed the limits of his endurance. To elude the police, he had to cling to the cross-structure under a small bridge for several hours, while police with bloodhounds patrolled on top of it. Tom hung under that bridge almost the entire night.

After having buried the money deep in the swamp, Tom fought his way out, a grueling trek that took hours. Later, when the coast was clear, he made his way back into the jungle, and somehow found the money. Once he dug through the muck and mire, found the briefcase, and opened it, the



ROBERTA BAYLEY

Forçade was not only accused of kidnapping and drugging Sid Vicious during their 1977 American tour, Warner Brothers convinced the Sex Pistols he was a CIA agent as well.

money was sopping wet.

"Tom came to me with a suitcase full of what looked like mud," explains Michael Kennedy, Tom's attorney at the time, "but when you began to look at the thing, it was several hundred thousand dollars. He said, 'We've got a serious money-laundering problem here.' It was the dirtiest money I'd ever seen---caked in mud and scum and grime and alligator-shit and everything else. It was unbelievable."

THE GREAT ROCK 'N' ROLL SWINDLE

Tom had always been fascinated by the movies. As early as 1970 he had tried to break into the movie business with a short film treatment called *The Dealer*, a story seeped in drugs, rock 'n' roll, and revolution. His experiences on the Medicine Ball Caravan led him to believe that he could make an authentic outlaw movie. All he lacked was the resources and the right situation. By 1978, he believed he had both.

Tom had made his first plunge into the film business in 1977, investing \$50,000 into *The Polk County Pot Plane*, which he renamed *The Smugglers*. Ed Dwyer says, "I remember being in the screening room to see that. About halfway through I just got up and left. It was so dreadful." As he was leaving, Ed met Tom in the hallway. Tom asked him where he was going, and Ed answered, "Tom, if you keep putting your money into this, I'd better get home and print up some cash." Tom laughed and walked back into the theater.

As stupid as his staff thought the movie was, they were horrified when, the first week of January 1977, Tom decided to expand his fledgling movie studio by making a documentary of the Sex Pistols' American tour. Lech Kowalski, a young director with one feature film called *Sex Stars* under his belt, came up to Tom's office to discuss the idea, and after just a few hours of typical Forçadian negotiations, they took a taxi to a heliport, flew a

helicopter to the airport, and set out to make one of the wildest guerrilla films of all time.

Tom had always been into punk-rock. He was a big fan of seminal punk band the MC5, and all loud, hard rock music. As soon as the punk-rock scene re-emerged in New York in early 1976, he checked it out. He secretly funded *Punk* magazine, putting up the money to print several issues. He predicted that the punk scene would dominate the culture within a few years. After he put Johnny Rotten on the cover of *HIGH TIMES* (over the strenuous objections of many people on the staff), he became convinced that they'd be the most important band in the world.

In Tom's mind, it was the Medicine Ball Caravan all over again. After all, he figured, The Caravan of Pirates was the first punk-rock band, David Peel was the first punk rocker, and he himself was the original punk. The Sex Pistols were signed to Warner Brothers, his old nemesis, and Forçade was convinced that the Pistols, who had managed to get every other record company to kick them off the label, would find a way to piss off Warner Brothers as well. Tom figured he was their natural ally, but his first clumsy contacts during the Sex Pistols tour turned the band against him, and when Noel Monk, the Warner Brothers tour manager, conjured up the old rumor that Tom was a government agent, the Sex Pistols became convinced that the CIA was following the tour and that, ironically, Tom Forçade was a narc.

In Dallas, a week after he began his adventure, and after thousands and thousands of bills flew into the *HIGH TIMES* offices, Tom called the office and ordered six blank checks be delivered to his limousine. The *HIGH TIMES* financial officers refused. They cut him off, right in the middle of the film. "Tornetta and Place thought it was draining money away from them. They had contracts that let them do it," Craig Copetas recalls.

"He could have bankrupted the company," Andy Kowl says. *HIGH TIMES*

had just gotten a \$100,000 line of credit at the bank, and the financial officers were afraid he'd use it all up. They knew from experience that Tom was capable of killing the magazine, and they were a bit worried that he'd lost his mind again. Aside from the bills, frantic calls from Warner Brothers were jamming the phones, accusing Tom of everything from kidnapping Sid Vicious, the Sex Pistols' bass player, to bribing the road crew into helping make the movie. The situation got crazier by the minute.

"The fucking president of Warner Brothers knew Tom!" Andy recalls. To know Tom was not always to love Tom, however. "They were making threats to us."

His staff should have known better than to mistrust his judgement, Tom figured. He was not going to let anyone, not Warner Brothers, not the Sex Pistols, not the police, and last of all, not his own magazine staff, stop him from making this movie. It was too important a social document. He just spent twice as much money as he would have had his staff sent the checks. He hired chauffeured limousines to drive the film crew, himself, and his guests around Texas. He chartered private planes to travel between cities when he couldn't charge tickets. And he rented the entire top floor of the most expensive hotel in Dallas for his evening stay. He finished the filming.

Once Tom returned from the tour, *HIGH TIMES* was thrown into a state of siege. Tom and Jack Coombs took over the top floor of the office building, flashing guns. In defense, Paul Tornetta packed a gun. During one meeting, they hired a bodyguard to keep Jack from busting in.

Mysterious memos containing revolutionary Chinese proverbs appeared all over the *HIGH TIMES* office bulletin boards. Tom began to circulate little Red Books with the Quotations from Chairman Mao and Communist red stars to the employees. A month after his return from the tour, Tom rented a hotel ballroom, gave a masterful speech about power to the

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TOURING THE GOLDEN TRIANGLE

text and photos by Iva Pekarkova

The poppies that feed most of the world's heroin habit are grown in The Golden Triangle, a remote and mountainous region 300 miles due west of Hanoi. Centered on the borders of Thailand, Burma and Laos, the Triangle is a strange and dangerous land, where opium can be purchased for 40 cents a pipeful, and where the only authority is the local drug baron's paramilitary army.





It is a difficult place to visit, a paradise for some, where "everything's cheap," where the local hillsides shine pink, white and violet with luxurious poppies, and where ailments can be bathed in rich, opium-induced dreams. Few realize, however, that more and more land here gets eroded and wasted each year, victim to the slash-and-burn agriculture practiced by opium growers. Or that the local hill-tribe villagers--some six to eight ethnic groups of Tibeto-Burmese and Chinese origin--are impoverished, with an average annual income of \$250 per family, money made while working full-time to produce five to ten pounds of pure, cooked opium.

The center of this feudal society is located in northeastern Burma, a rugged mountain region with few roads and almost no cities. For the last four decades, some 25 armies have been fiercely fighting here, some seeking national independence, some merely plying the opium trade. No one knows how many tribal folks get killed in numerous armed clashes in the Triangle, or how many die of malaria or leprosy, or how many young girls get sold to bordellos in Bangkok by addicts desperate for cash. Just as we don't know how many addicts all over the world fill their veins with the white dust scratched from these beautiful flowers.

Up, up, up on the narrow mountain trail goes Sombat, my betel nut-chewing guide. I follow the bright red drops of Sombat's saliva. Equipped with the knowledge of some thirty English words, which he uses more or less interchangeably, Sombat leads me to see *chao kao*, the mountain people. And to smoke opium, *finn*, he adds without hesitation, a broad grin on his suntanned face, his hand waving in front of his nose to illustrate the delights that await us. Long ago we left the main road, climbing up numerous hills among thickets of elephant grass and whispering bamboo bushes, sweating like pigs. It's December, the poppy fields are in full bloom, but we must climb high enough to see them because opium can only be grown at the altitudes of 3,000 feet or more. "Go village, see poppy, smoke, sleep, *fuck*," Sombat



had vowed. And that's how it was. (I should add here that there were no special feelings between my guide and me, *fuck* being Sombat's word for the morning haze.) Sombat was a professional tourist guide, professional in the sense he did it for a living. He was also an opium addict, and showing his favorite opium den to tourists was a good way for him to get to smoke it for free. As with so many Thais from the lowlands, he didn't know much about the mountain people. And he didn't want to know...

The following day, I was finally rid of Sombat and able to continue my journey alone, with not much more than a few t-shirts, camera, water bottle, medicine, and powdered milk for the village kids. Trekking the remotest trails--most of them accessible only on foot, and made treacherous by the deep tracks of elephants--I encountered little hill-tribe villages built of bamboo, hidden in the valleys or overlooking the countryside from steep mountain slopes. I met their poor inhabitants, a simple but happy people. Most of them didn't know a thing about the outside world but seemed eager to invite me into their homes and share whatever they had with me.

About half a million tribal people live in northern Thailand, scattered in tens of thousands of ever-moving, ever-changing hamlets throughout the mountain region. They grow papayas, chili peppers, vegetables



and the bluish-violet mountain rice, but in most cases opium is the only crop that brings cash. But it doesn't bring much: in the hills, a pound of opium sells for up to \$50, depending on quality; in the nearby town of Chiang Rai it's \$200 and in Bangkok \$400-600. The opium growers are not really involved in the trade: they merely sell their harvest to middlemen. In Thailand the authorities do not encourage opium growing; they try to "educate people" to replace opium with an "alternative cash crop." Unofficially, however, no one seems too keen on this idea--partly because a cash crop as good as opium is hard to find, partly because most of the poppy fields are inaccessible and the villagers willing to protect them from being cut down.

In most villages men sit in their houses or bamboo shelters all day long, cutting little chunks of raw opium, roasting them on a flame and smoking them up, while the women folk grow crops, pasture cows, rear children. But that's how it's been for decades; this is their daily life, and no one complains. Aside from free distribution of condoms by the Thai government, medical care is not available. But every village has its own witch doctor who treats diseases by guessing what spirits are causing them, and then luring the bad spirits out of human bodies with offerings of slaughtered chickens, rice balls,

and candles. Spirits are a heavy issue all around the Triangle. Every now and then the whole village has to move to a new, more fertile, more precious site because the spirits of the fields tend to turn unfavorable within several years: the land becomes wasted. New sites are needed, new forests need to be burned--the people have to survive. At present, the population doubles every fifteen years or so, and there's less and less space in the mountains.

But who controls the drug trade in the Triangle? How does the network operate? At first glance, it's hard to tell. Every now and then, a bare-boned newspaper report offers information about the armed clashes between "rebel armies" right across the Thai border in Burma, or a heroin factory gets raided and some opium seized, but no bad guy is ever caught. A few Thai soldiers and police officers get shot every year while attempting to cut down illegal poppy fields. In the Triangle's Shan States--a territory which is technically Burma, but actually controlled by nationalist rebel groups--Burmese helicopters spray a herbicide every few years, poisoning not only the poppies but other crops as well, contaminating water supplies and causing deaths. This seems to be the Burmese government's only effort to curb the opium production, and it's probably aimed more at the rebellious tribal

folks than opium itself. From scraps of information, presented--very differently--by speakers of different nationalities, I finally got an overall picture of the situation.

It's said that some 80% of the narcotics trade is controlled by one man, a 50-year-old half-Chinese, half-Shan who calls himself Khun Sa--*Lord Sa*. After gaining military experience with the Chinese Nationalist Army, Sa spent a few years in a Burmese jail, before he managed to get out in the early '70s and collect between two and three thousand troops into the Shan United Army. According to his own propaganda, Sa's involvement in the drug trade is just a means for financing the struggle for Shan independence. Sa has built a nice villa for himself in Thailand, near the Burmese border in Mae Salong, and seems to be well protected, more by his drug money, of course, than by his ten-foot high, barbed-wire fence.

But what does the situation look like, I mean REALLY look like? Is it possible for a long-nosed foreigner to visit the Shan States in Burma and not get killed? I want to try. An old Burmese I meet on a bus gives me an address, written in imperfect Roman letters, with a conspiratorial smile.

His name is Phatt. He lives near Mae Salong, and he's of Shan nationality. Yes, he belongs to that little-known tribe, most of whose members seem to have given up



everything in their struggle for sovereignty. Born in Yunnan province in China, Phatt escaped the Shan States to Thailand on foot. He's an illegal immigrant, living in constant danger of arrest, and serves as a contact man between Thailand and Shan States, distributing information and propaganda material to the "outer world." Phatt has a broad smile and a pair of shining dark-brown eyes. He is pleased that Westerners are interested to see his homeland. He promises to accompany me across the border.

Early in the morning we set off. We hitch a ride on a dirt road and, when the road ends in a small village, we continue on foot. "Burma there," Phatt points to the high peaks on the western horizon. Besides a few checkpoints which we have to avoid, there's no border patrol, no indication that we are crossing a national boundary. We wade through several brooks, climb up a few mountain slopes, then all of a sudden Phatt grows anxious. We are in Khun Sa's territory and if we meet the opium caravans with mules, or even some of Khun Sa's soldiers, things might get dangerous. Dangerous? Isn't Khun Sa a Shan like Phatt, after all? Phatt waves away my slow-witted question with an annoyed gesture. Khun Sa is *Chinese*, he says, referring to the other half of Khun Sa's ancestry. He's a drug lord, nothing more. And the *real* Shan Army fights for freedom!

For the next ten miles or so we

walk on in silence, at a solid pace, avoiding villages which are scattered across mountain slopes. Having crossed the border, we see the poppies. Grown not on tiny, hard-to-see-from-the-helicopter stripes of land as in most places in Thailand; the poppy fields here are wide and thriving. It's midday now, and the villagers, who don't seem suspicious to Phatt, are dressed in their national costumes, slowly moving through the fields, scratching opium from the pods, turbans wrapped around their heads to protect them from the burning sun.

Eventually we end up in a village which looks just like an ordinary one, but with a few soldiers of the "real" Shan Army, yellow-green-and-red bands on their sleeves, strolling around. Phatt greets some of them enthusiastically. The tricolors are Shan national colors, meaning that under the shining sun they want to grow their green rice, and they'll fight to the last drop of their red blood in order to grow it in a free land. Since the only green crop I have seen so far has been the opium plant, I have to swallow another dumb question. There's a lot of opium grown in the Shan States, Phatt admits, and Khun Sa's middlemen buy most of it; we don't encourage the villagers to grow it but we don't punish them either. Opium is such a good crop!

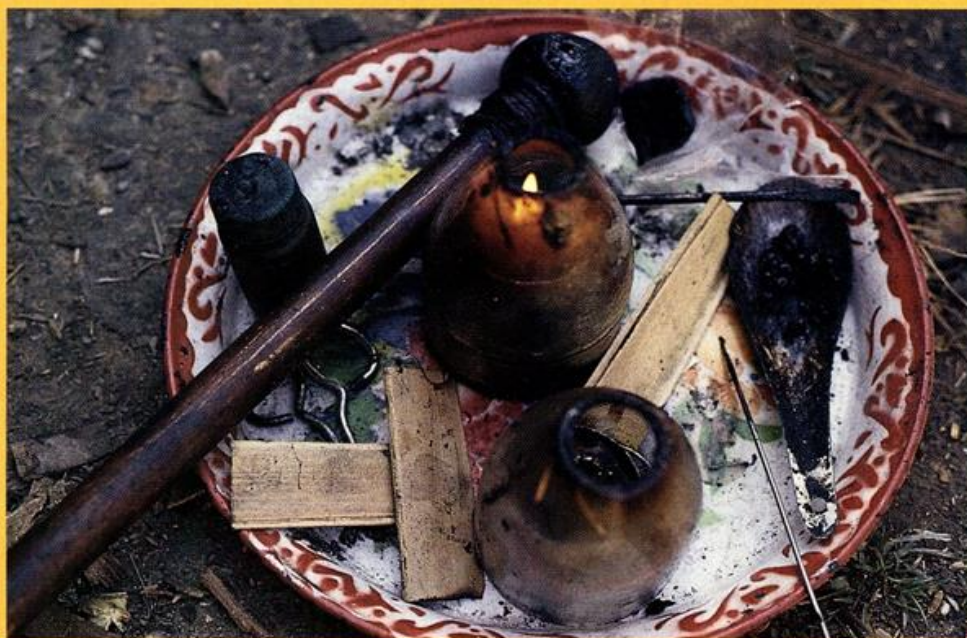
For dinner we eat days-old sticky rice, salt and dried chili peppers. Phatt laughs at me because I don't

feel good surrounded by eight or ten automatic weapons, aiming in all directions. The more armor around you the safer you are! I don't understand weapons but Phatt explains that some are American, some Chinese--mostly old rifles, seized in clashes with the Chinese Nationalist Army--and some Czechoslovak, Phatt adds, remembering where I was born. In a place like this, what a surprise, to hear of my long-ago-escaped-from communist homeland whose leaders have been running their mouths about "disarmament" and "world-wide peace" for decades.

Then I am subjected to a series of merciless interrogations by the armbanded Shan Army officers. Phatt patiently serves as an interpreter--and, without any doubt, dumb-answer fixer. The main issue is that of my safety... But what am I doing here? What do I expect to see? Who am I, after all? What do I want?

After hours of sitting around a bamboo fire, it's decided that I'll be able to walk into the Shan territory for a day or two, accompanied by Phatt, of course, and protected by an escort of four soldiers. Phatt is just glowing: there have been Western visitors to the Shan States--some Englishmen and a few journalists from France--but as far as he knows I'll be the first woman to travel this far. I quickly wrap myself in a dirty blanket. We only have a few hours to sleep.

Two uniformed Shans in front of us, two behind, we walk the



smuggler's trail for three days. We meet bunches of lean, unfriendly, worn-out men, transporting gems, handicrafts, stolen antiques from Burma on their backs, to sell them at the Thai border and to buy medicine, radios, batteries, flashlights, which they then carry back. We meet people from the tribal villages who stare at me and touch my skin, not believing I am real. We see bare-breasted women in the fields, numerous kids running around them, using every opportunity to suck on their long, coarse nipples. But I am not allowed to stop or talk. Two soldiers in front of me, two behind, I'm escorted like a hostage through Shan territory. I still don't know the area as well as I would like to, but the mystery is gone.

As we progress westward towards the distant Salween River we grow more and more fatigued, tired of the stifling heat, the monotonous food, the endless, never-changing trails leading us up and down the hilly terrain, from one village to another. Everything starts looking the same. Phatt says this area is "sensitive"--dangerous--but we don't hear any shooting or encounter any real danger. The only thing we can see is the extreme poverty. The villagers, in whose ramshackle shanties we spend nights, don't speak any Thai here, just Burmese and their native languages, although the baht (Thai currency) is well known and much sought after. We aren't really getting anywhere--but it's not easy to turn back. Phatt keeps reminding me that, in any case, the army officials only gave us a few days. Finally, one village where we are sleeping becomes the turning point. Phatt talks to the

soldiers in our escort and in the morning we start retracing our steps, taking another three days to reach the Shan Camp near the Thai Border.

So we walk back to face new interrogations in the Shan camp. When it's all over, Phatt takes me back to Thailand through Khun Sa's territory. I part with him near Mae Salong and, although it's considered bad manners in Asia, I kiss him good-bye.

Back in Thailand, in a H'mong village called Khew Khan, a scorpion bites me on the shin. My calf gets swollen to triple its size, or at least so it seems. "*Mai tai*," the villagers assure me, "You are not gonna die." But the pain is overwhelming. Half limping, half being carried, I make it to the nearest opium den. They lay me down on a split bamboo bed, raise my head with a triangular pillow, and wrap a piece of smelly rag around my pitiful leg. An angel with a constant smile on his thin face cuts little chunks of brownish-yellow, raw opium from yesterday's harvest and, having roasted them in a flame of a kerosene lamp, he forces them through the opening on his pipe's head. Then, holding the dark-brown mass close to the flame, he offers me the ivory mouthpiece. And that's how I lay there: for a day and a half, my leg no less swollen but the pain gone, a peaceful feeling of gentle drowsiness distributed evenly through my body. Angel's wife brings a fresh supply of opium sap from the fields. And so we just sit there: one pipeful for me, one for the angel.

Three months pass. The opium harvest season is over. The villagers have collected the seeds of

the best poppy pods, which gave off the most sap, and keep them in jars or cotton bags, hidden in the most precious places decided upon by the exorcists. Poppy seeds are in everything: in the noodle soup we eat for breakfast, in cakes of pounded rice, in pig swills.

Khun Sa's caravans are reaching their destination just west of the Thai border, heroin refineries are running at 100% capacity, the white powder gets packed and shipped to Hong Kong, New York, Amsterdam. Khun Sa enjoys his wealth in his fenced villa or who knows where; his followers call him "freedom fighter."

There is a village at the end of my trail, a little bigger than most others; it has a school and a wooden Baptist church, street stands with rice cakes and hard candy, and a dirt road which leads down the hill.

There's no chartered bus, no taxi, no arrangements made for a peaceful-minded tourist to get back some thirty miles to the main road connecting Chiang Rai and Mae Sai, the tourist centers--to get back to the restaurants offering noodle soup and fried strips of pigskin, to the guesthouses with poppy design on the bedsheets, to the police officers sniffing your knapsack, to the dark-faced street vendors selling jades and ebony-wood carvings smuggled from Burma, ridiculously cheap. But I only have to raise my thumb once, and a wild-eyed madman is driving me down from the mountain on the bed of his ancient 4WD pick-up truck. My hands are trembling slightly. I know it's not fear, although the chickens and pigs are running off the road in front of us in a frenzy, as the driver approaches intricate curves on two screeching wheels, at twice the speed I'd consider half sane. No, it's not fear. In the next few days I'll have to fight off the tiny opium addiction which is so easy to acquire up here in the hills. The sun has set and the whole western horizon seems ablaze with an orange glow. But as the dusk falls, other lights appear in the mountains. Like little strings of ruby-colored jewels, the chains of fire are burning the mountain slopes, getting new land ready for cultivation--as every spring. I stare at the glistening flames as the truck carries me down from the mountains and realize the opium poppies may provide the only income for many of these people, but the flowers are like a litter of puppies biting their own mother's tits, sucking her milk, her blood, and her life. ●



THE PEAK OF FLUORESCENCE.
photography by Ed Rosenthal.



LOW BUDGET GROWROOMS

**text and photos
by Kevin Rudeboy**

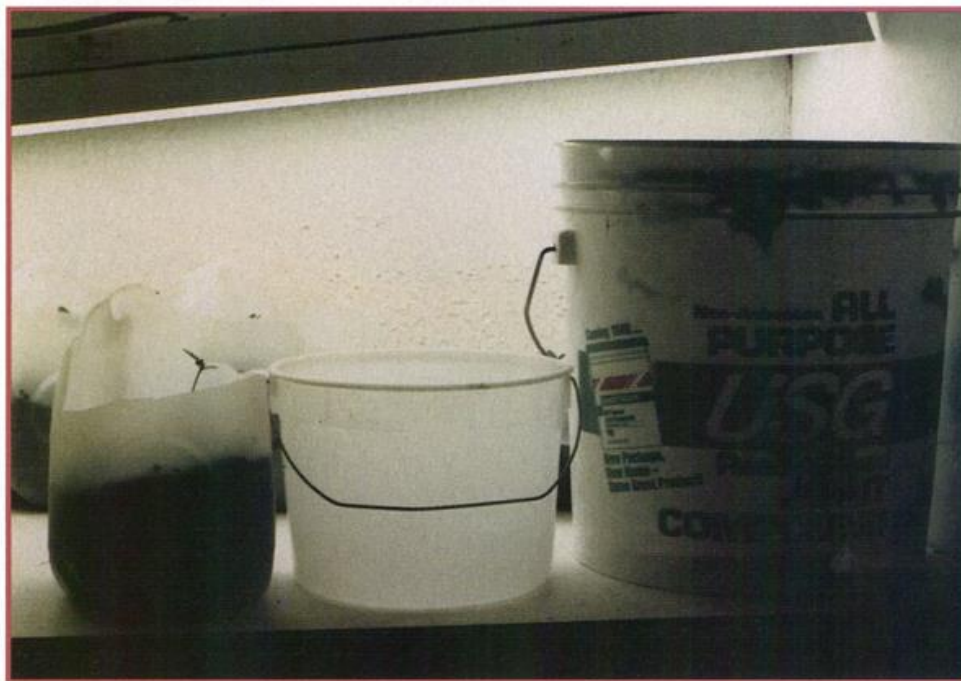
When I was younger, in the days of Savoy Brown and Mott the Hoople, an ounce of smoke cost \$15. There were four or five head shops in town with everything from paraphernalia to albums (remember those?) and from the latest hip books to incense. There was even one with a cafe serving herbal tea. Pot was easy to get and inexpensive. Nobody had heard of cocaine and homegrown was considered bunk.

Those days are gone now and so are head shops and cheap four-fingered ounces. A quarter-ounce of brown buds costs \$30-\$40 and everybody's got a damn straw stuck up their nose. Some people are just born pot-heads, I guess. Some are drunks and others are coke fiends, but me, I prefer a nice quiet bowl of buds to anything else I've tried. I'm not a big-time partier--just a bowl at night and a bit more on the weekends, that's enough for me.

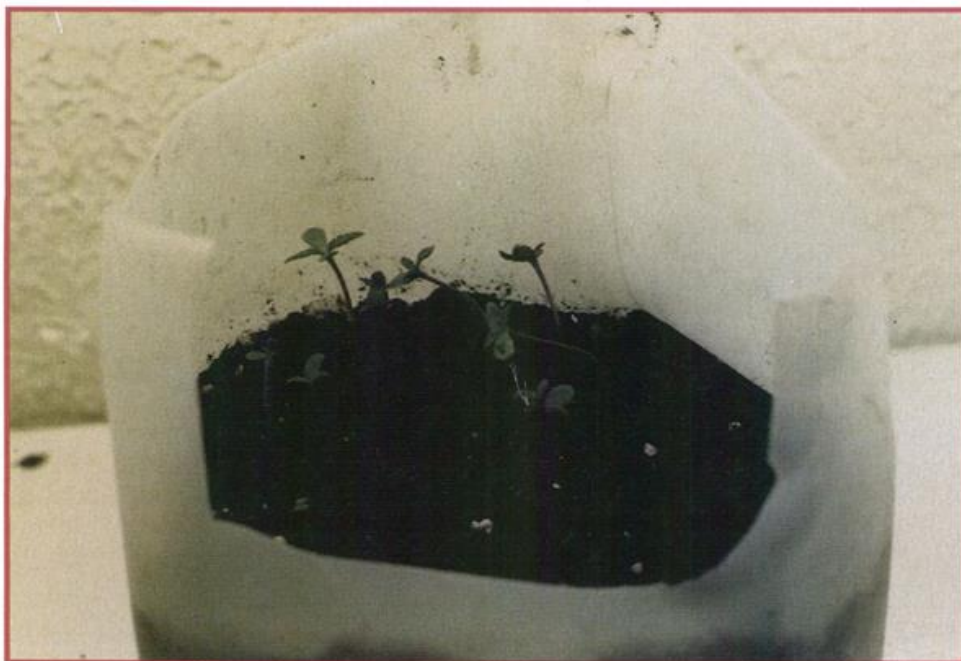
I don't have a college degree or a fancy high-paying job. I'm an average Joe. No expensive home in some snobby neighborhood or shiny new car in the garage. My job gets me by and my car gets me home to my little house. I survive.

Times being what they are, I found I could no longer afford my favorite habit. I also couldn't afford a new-fangled hydroponic set-up or an expensive halide-sodium lighting system. When added up, over the course of a year, the cost of 52 weekly bags is a lot higher than an indoor garden, but it's hard to come up with that much cash in one lump sum.

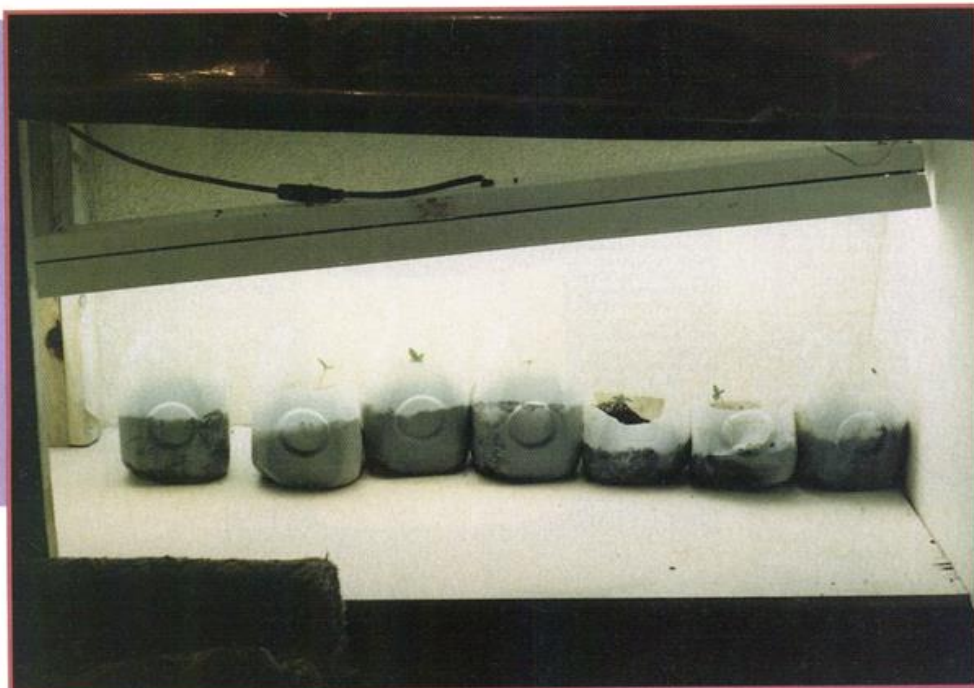
I had grown my own outside in my backyard for two summers and was happy with the results. But the risk of getting busted is magnified outside. I learned one thing though--- with the right seeds, homegrown is as good or better than what I was buying. What I



The three different size containers that work best for me.



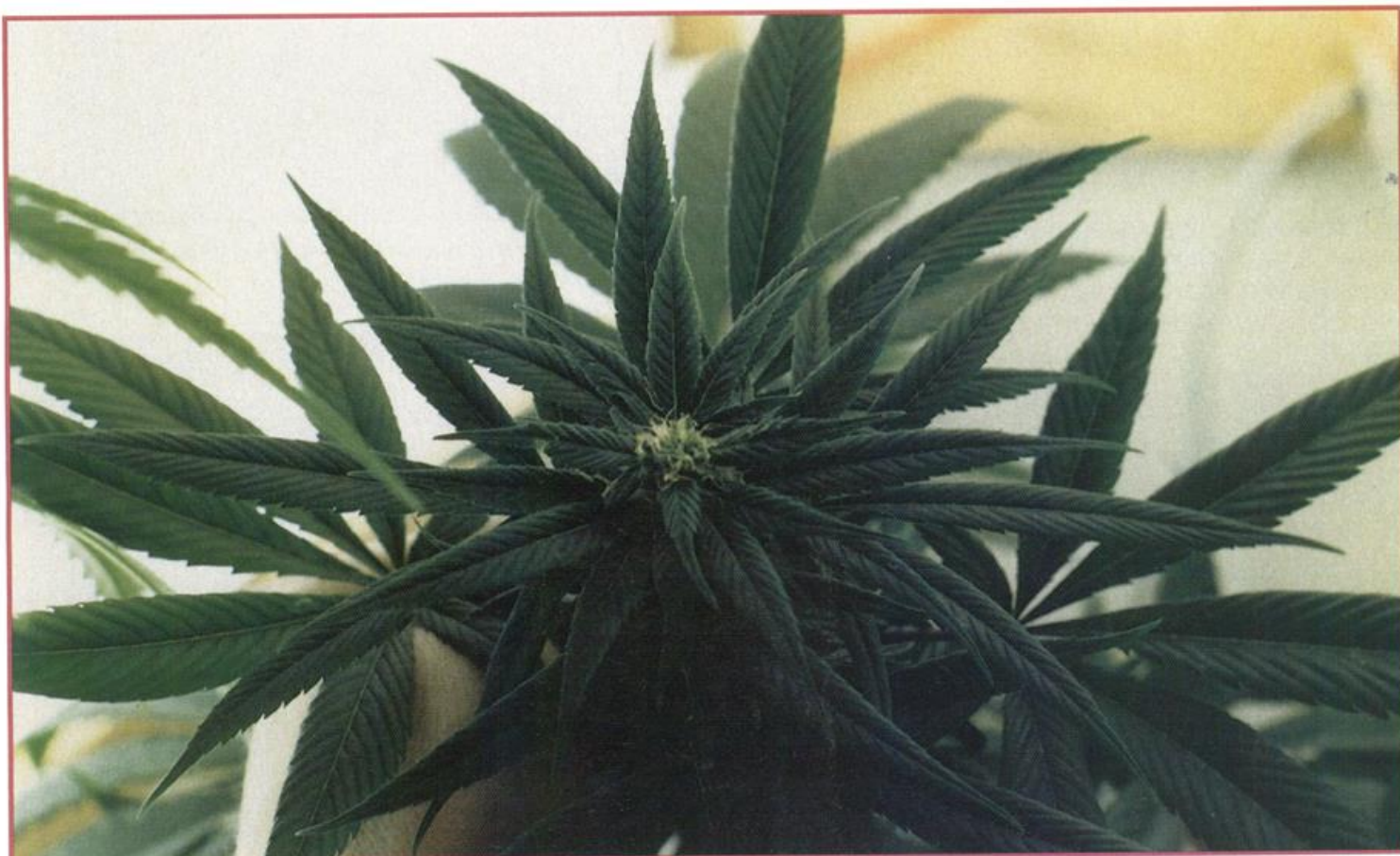
Four days after planting, the seedlings are up.



Each plant is put into its own container.



Four months later, my "joint compound" is just about ready.



A poor man's plant, just beginning to bud.

needed was the most inexpensive indoor garden possible.

I had a rec room in my basement and when I built it I left three feet on all sides to keep it warm, away from the cold brick walls. The room had a door with a padlock and, most importantly, secrecy. Showing off big bud-filled bushes to your friends

may come back to haunt you in the future. Who can we really trust in these days of "Reward offered for information leading to the arrest and conviction of citizens cultivating marijuana"?

I started with a wooden frame made of el-cheapo two-by-fours. They cost 79 cents each and I didn't

care if they were straight or not. I built the frame five feet tall, two feet wide and five feet long. Off-white sheets of posterboard were only 39 cents each and I used ten of them as ceiling, floor and walls. I then mounted one \$7.99 shoplight from the top of my frame by wire so it

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A Tale Of Two Gardens

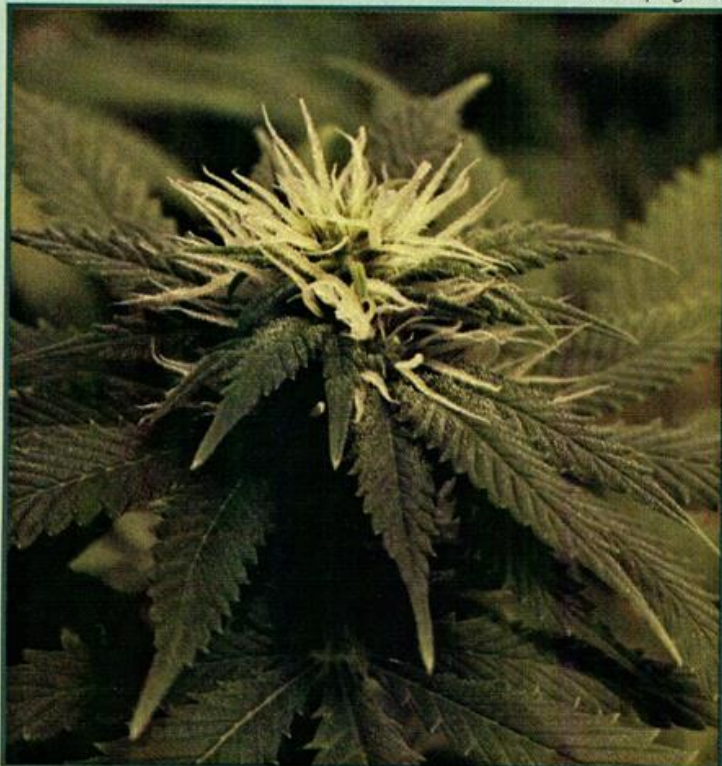
pt. 6

by Ed Rosenthal

Liz's Garden

All three of Liz's gardens are being used now. The rooting section, the stage two vegetative growth section and the flowering section have healthy plants.

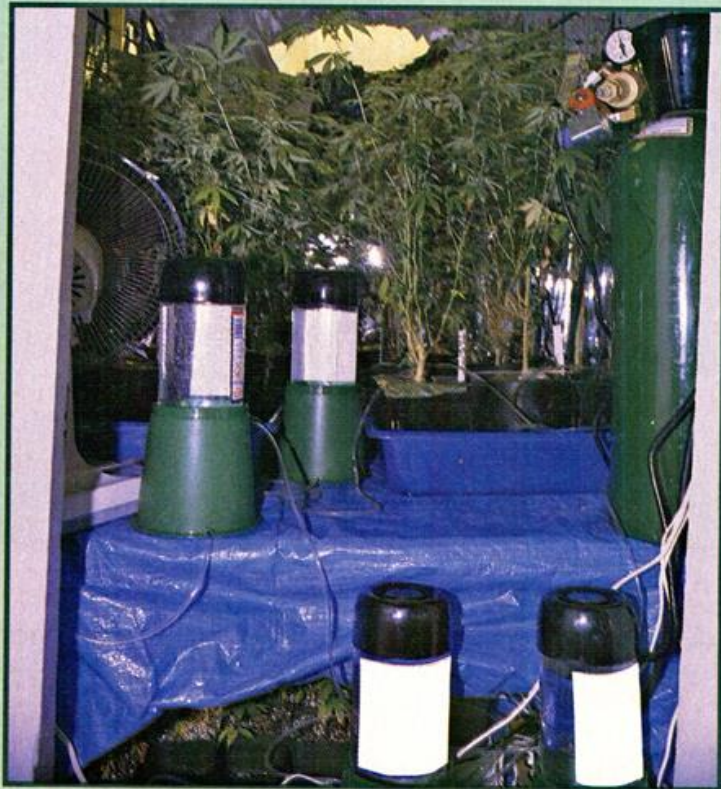
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A young bud. In a month it will be ripe and glistening with resin.



Close-up of the water fountains. One is used for each tray.



Gardens 2 and 3. The lower compartment is lit by fluorescents and is used to grow the rooted cuttings until they are about a foot high.

ASKED

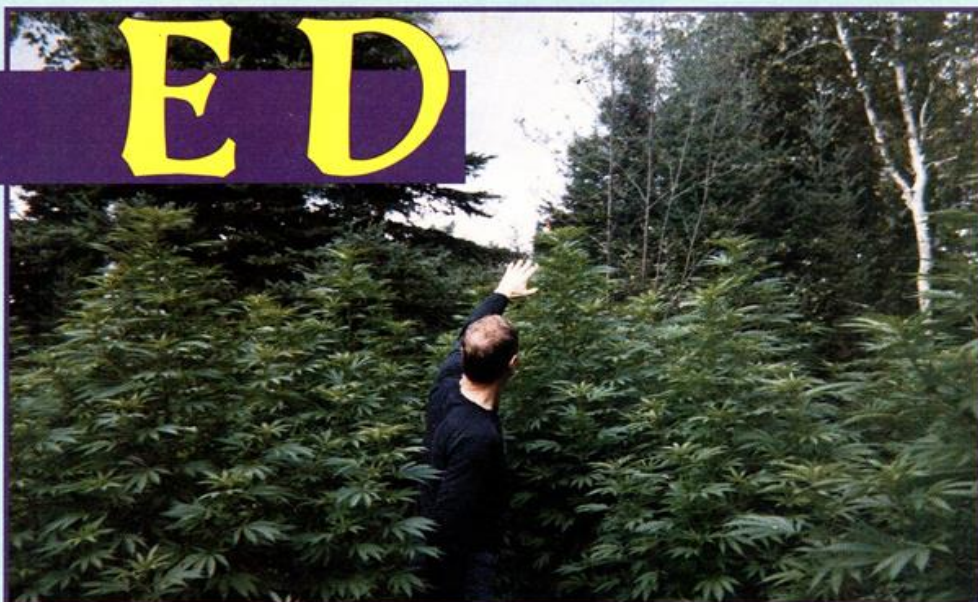
GARDEN OF THE MONTH

This garden was grown at the 46th parallel. The photo of these clones was taken in late August, with one month to go. Do clones mature faster or slower than plants from seed?

--J.G.S.

Toronto, Canada

Clone maturation seems delayed by about a week to ten days.



PLANT OF THE MONTH



I started my plants in March, indoors under Gro-Lux fluorescents, until the end of June, when the corn was knee-high. I pulled some corn out and dug a hole 18 inches deep and 24 inches wide, using a post-hole digger. I threw some gravel in the bottom, then filled the hole with compost. We watered weekly with fertilized water. The males were pulled the first of August and we harvested September 31. The buds were bomba size!

--T.C.

Ohio



BUD OF THE MONTH

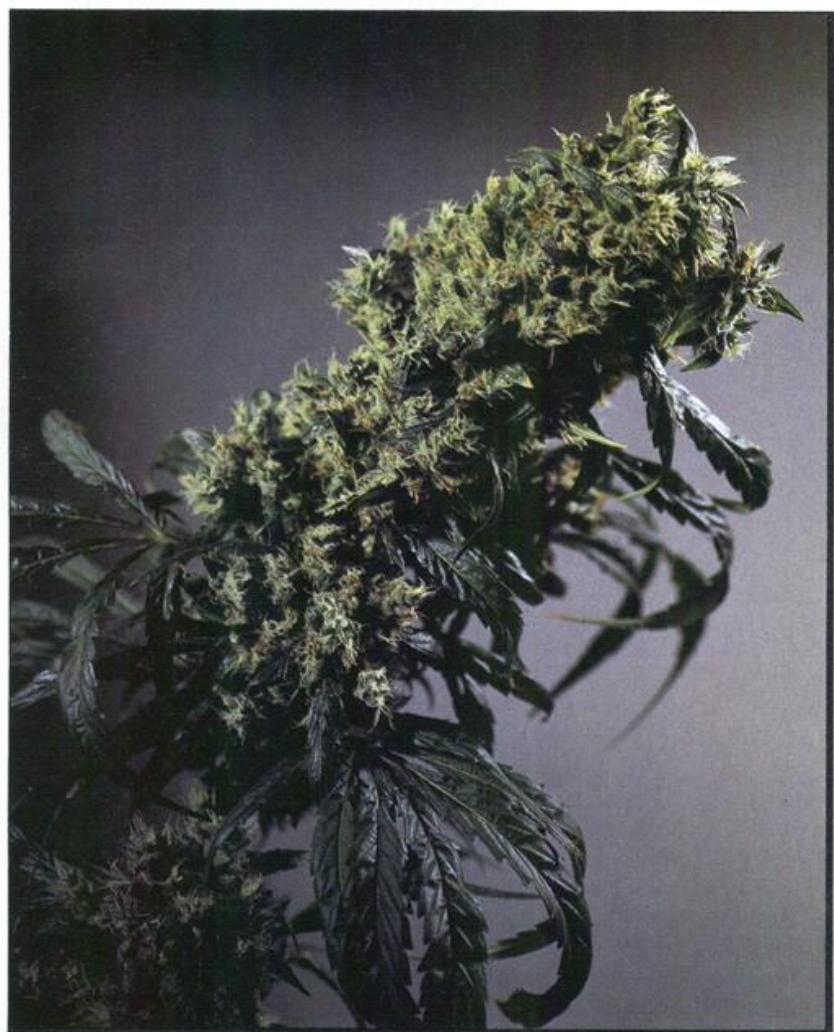


This year, I experimented with short season crops (3-month plants). This bud came off a pure *sativa* seed from California. It had a sweet taste and a great cerebral high. There is another bud on the same plant which is almost as big.

--The Ridge Master

Oahu, HW

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LOW BUDGET

continued from page 53

could be easily moved as the plants grew.

Grow-light bulbs can cost between six and twelve dollars. I couldn't afford all grow-lights so I began with one grow-light and one cool white. I built my garden beneath the heat duct to give it warmth in the winter. I plugged my light into a \$3.95 K-Mart timer and spent \$2.98 for a 30 lb. bag of potting soil. Plastic one-gallon milk containers make great starting pots and since I drink milk anyway I simply rinsed them out and cut off the tops and punched a few holes in the bottom for drainage.

At that particular time, I luckily came across some skunk weed and found five seeds in the bag. I had saved seeds from the best bags all year and marked them so I knew what was what. After trial and error I found that seeds germinate best when they are planted with other seeds. This means more transplanting down the road but I've tried all ways and this works best for me.

When the plants reached three to five inches tall I replanted each into its own milk container. These containers are perfect because you can see the roots and know when the plants get root-bound, plus they cut away easily to get the plant out with no problem.

The milk containers worked for awhile but then I discovered that the plants outgrow them in about one to two months. I moved all mine into two-gallon ice cream containers after that. It takes me awhile to eat two gallons of ice cream but when they are empty, they're excellent.

Containers are one thing and lights are another. I always kept my lights about six to twelve inches from the tops of the plants. I also rotated my plants 1/4 turn every two days. This helped the leaves get more light all around. Fluorescents use less electricity than standard lights so the bill won't be affected by the garden.

Within the next month I discovered my plants had outgrown the ice cream buckets and had to decide what to replant them in. I found five-gallon drywall buckets lying around at construction sites and washed them out. It's important to replant as soon as you see the plant is rootbound. This keeps them growing like wildfire. Be careful with the roots and water the new dirt in the container the plant is going in. Lukewarm water is best and only

water when the soil gets dry.

The timer settings I use are eighteen hours on and six hours off while the plants are growing. Then when the plants are big enough or I'm ready, I switch to twelve on and twelve off to bud.

When I began my little garden I had no idea what would happen. I played it by ear and learned as I went along. Each harvest got better. I am not a dealer. I do not grow pot for profit. The profit is in the smoke which is in my head and in the savings from no longer having to purchase it.

There are no pesticides in my grass. If you are buying imported reefer, who knows what's in it? Do you think these growers care about us? My smoke is natural. No more waiting outside in a car in some suspicious neighborhood, hoping I can score some skimp bag for sixty dollars. As long as you have good seeds you have good grass.

My ex-dealer stopped by the other day and after smoking my home-grown wanted to buy mine from me at top price! I told the bum to hit the road and twisted up a monster joint of fresh buds. Anybody can grow good reefer.

My garden flourishes without halide lights. It thrives without hydroponics. Dirt and well-water, simple and cheap. I am proud of my little garden and my buds are as nice as I've seen. There is something special about smoking what you have grown. Only a home gardener can appreciate this. There is a bond between you and the plants that you have raised from seedlings.

Anybody can have an indoor garden. All you need is a heated, well-ventilated space, water and fluorescent lights. Privacy, for obvious reasons, has to be guaranteed. Patience and good seeds help. The rewards are great.

I'm sure that hydroponics produces bigger and faster plants and that those fancy lights and root compounds and CO₂ and ozone generators and oscillating squirrel cages and rockwool and all the rest make plants more potent and resinous. But guess what? My plants are just fine and my buds are resinous enough for me. I don't need the expensive hardware.

Maybe someday in the future when I make big bucks I can afford a high-class grow system with a computer to monitor everything, but for right now I'll settle for a poor man's garden. ●

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TWO GARDENS

continued from page 54

The rooting section consists of a glass baking dish filled with water slightly enriched with high phosphorous fertilizer. Styrofoam forms float on the water, holding the clones in place. The water is aerated using a fish-tank pump and aerator unit. To promote rooting, the water is kept between 70-75° using a plant heating mat.

The second-stage garden is where the rooted clones are fattened up before flowering. The space is lit by fluorescents and allows the plants to get about a foot tall.

The plants in Liz's main garden,

where flowering takes place, are in early flowering and filling out. Most of these plants have already flowered once. After removing the buds from the plants, Liz let them go into a vegetative cycle by running the lights continuously. After a few weeks the flowering cycle regimen of 12 hours light/12 hours darkness was reinstated.

When plants are reflowered they tend to be very bushy. To eliminate small branches crowding the area, most are clipped off. Liz let most of the branches grow. As a result she has hundreds of flowering sites on each plant, but they are much smaller than they would be with fewer branches.

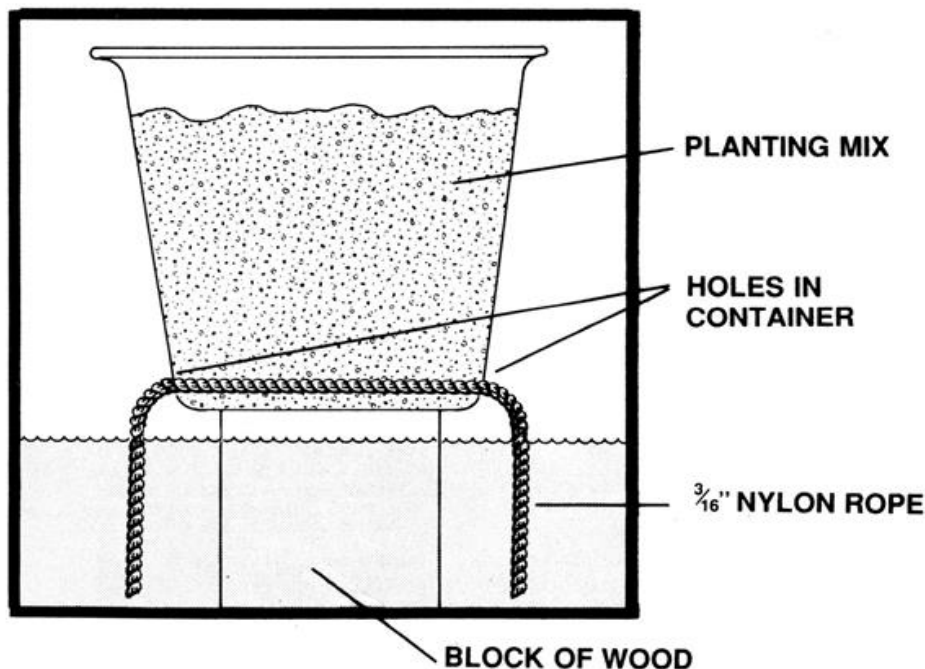
Liz is away, so she has placed "water fountains" in her garden to

make sure that the plants do not go dry. The reservoirs are designed to keep the water level at two inches. The water is stored in a 2-liter plastic soda bottle and travels through a small tube directly into the tray.

Sharkey's Garden

Film from Sharkey's garden was lost by the processing laboratory. His garden will return to grace the pages of this magazine next month. Instead I'll describe how a wick garden works:

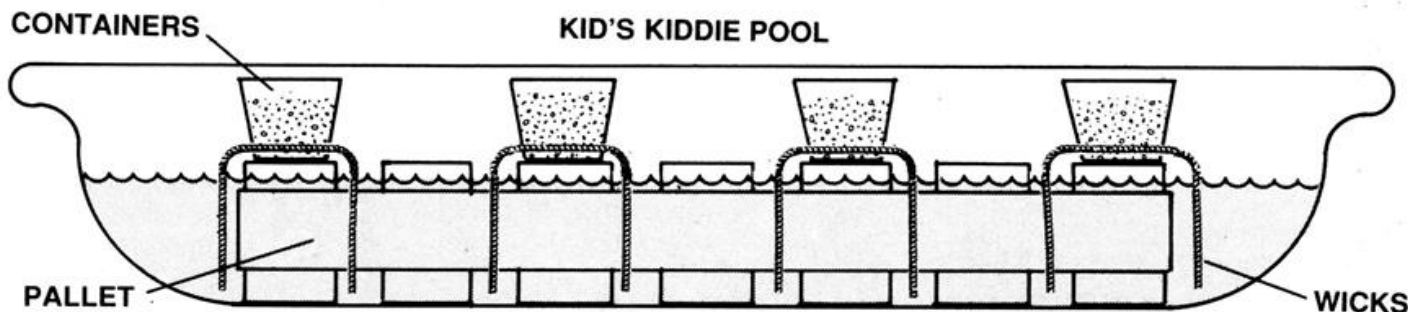
The Wick System



Water is drawn up from a reservoir by wicks to keep a constant moisture level in the planting medium. Nylon rope is an ideal wick because it draws water well and lasts for years.

To construct a wick pot, a nylon rope is drawn through two holes of a container, leaving a four to five inch end coming out of each hole. A six-inch container needs one to two cords; larger containers may need four. The container is filled with a moist planting mix such as the one described above or with most planting mixes sold in nurseries and garden stores. Supports which lift the containers 3", such as bricks, blocks of wood or styrofoam blocks are placed in trays which hold 2 1/2" of water and the containers are placed on top of them. The nylon cord trails into the tray, which is filled with water/nutrient solution.

One garden I visited was constructed of a 5' plastic kiddie pool. Wick pots sat on a shipping pallet placed inside the pool. To water and fertilize, the grower added fertilizer and then filled the pool to a depth just below the containers. The grower said it was the easiest growing system he had ever used.



A Tale Of Two Gardens

pt. 6



Top view of the flowering garden. The plants will be flowering for another 4-5 weeks.



Clones rooting in warmed, aerated water. Holes have been poked in styrofoam plates to hold them in place. Two fluorescent tubes provide adequate light.



The clones are planted in four inch square containers. Liz tried a vermiculite, perlite, wormcastings and styrofoam pellets mixture. It was too moist for this system, but probably would have worked better using the wick method. In spite of the too moist mix the plants continued to grow. ●

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FORUM

continued from page 34

an Ask Ed column; Ed covers that well enough. Each column will address only one question and, hopefully, fully answer it. The column will zero-in on everything from direct questions about cultivation and smoking pot, to cannabis history and medical issues. You ask and I'll do my best to answer.

For those who don't know me, here's some background. In March of 1968, I harvested my first crop of homegrown marijuana. My first published writing about growing appeared in *Rolling Stone* in 1970. I was the original "answer man" for the fledgling HIGH TIMES, back in the heady days of 1974. I've authored or co-authored three books on growing marijuana, popularly known as the *Marijuana Grower's Guide* series, which includes the deluxe "bible" and the new *Insider's Guide*. My articles and photographs have been featured in *Head*, *HiLife*, *Marijuana Papers*, *Rush*, *HIGH TIMES* and *Rolling Stone*. I've photographed every aspect of marijuana from photomicrographs of resin glands to 5,000-plant sinsemilla fields for two decades. The photos have graced college textbooks, slide lectures, educational films, and library presentations, as well as books and magazines.

So whether you grow on a windowsill, under 10,000 watts of halides, in a 20-acre field, or simply buy marijuana, write to me in care of HIGH TIMES, and we'll begin to address your problems, concerns, and interests.

Before closing, let me dispense one particularly personal piece of marijuana lore: Mel Frank is my pen name, and I'm a real person. Somehow, in the marijuana underground, it came to be believed that Mel Frank was something of a generic term for a composite marijuana growing expert (MF for Marijuana Farmer). The fact that MF is an acronym for Marijuana Farmer is pure accident and coincidence. The pen name actually came from my two Siamese cats--Melon, a round-faced male and Frank, a petite female, who both have now departed to Kitty Heaven after spending 20 earthly years munching my prized pot plants.

This column will be a forum. I know that questions are a-begging. Please ask. I'll do my best to answer. ●

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In pursuit of this master's thesis, I first had to generate the most extensive nonacademic library on the subject. Second, I assembled the most extensive scientific bibliography ever created. Then, I went into the laboratory at a major university while under federal license, and designed the most sophisticated laboratory grade growing chamber in the world called the PHOTOTRON™ and the methodology "Growing Plants Pyraponimetrically."©

The Phototron™ is not presented to the public as a piece of paraphernalia intended for the unlawful production of marijuana. The system was designed to grow any plant. The private cultivation of marijuana has been illegal under numerous state and federal laws since 1936. Marijuana can only be grown legally with a federal license. I worked under such a license at the time I was engaged in my research. Pyraponic Industries Inc. II will never knowingly sell products to anyone expressing the intent to produce illicit substances. If you were to research indoor plant growing techniques, as I did, a similarity soon becomes apparent. Every system before the Phototron™ has attempted to duplicate a tropical climate, such as Hawaii's, in a confined area. I suggest that when you finally achieve the re-creation of Hawaii, you can do no better than Hawaii's results.

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Attest

'I NEVER MET A REALITY I DIDN'T LIKE'

A REPORT ON 'VITAMIN K'

by Ramses Sputz

12/14/88 80mg "Vitamin K" self-administered via intramuscular injection

The trip begins as a warm and gentle tingling all over my body. Soon I start to feel like I'm floating. My vision gets blurry. Everything in the room glows in a soft haze. Then textures begin to change rapidly. The sheets feel like silk, then burlap, then sandpaper, then water.

I check the digital clock two feet from my face. With some effort I'm able to focus my eyes enough to see that four minutes have passed since injecting the drug. The next time I look, the large numerals are dancing so furiously that I can't read them.

The 45 minutes which follow seem, as they say, like an eternity. Wild hallucinatory scenarios play before my closed eyes. Hints of half-forgotten dreams, childhood fever delirium, nitrous oxide--but still far beyond any reference points from my previous experience.

At one moment, my left arm seems to shrivel down to a withered stump while my right arm grows into a gigantic tree which sprouts lizard limbs. Scaly reptilian fingers wave comically in my face. Then my entire body shrinks down to a tiny amorphous amoeboid lump on the bed, whose surface correspondingly swells into a vast landscape; my friend lying next to me becomes a towering mountain range. At other times I have no awareness of having a body at all. I become a floating, diffuse cloud of disembodied thought, surfing the warps and waves of Einstein's non-linear, non-Euclidean spacetime continuum. I'm on a guided tour through the subatomic factory which continuously generates the universe, witnessing the mathematical equations which govern the emergence of matter from the field of quantum probabilities, the vacuum matrix from which all particles arise and into which they dissolve.

But the factory doesn't manufacture this universe alone. Countless other universes are rolling off the assembly line, and I can see their images peeping around the corners of spacetime.

I feel psychically dismembered, as if fragments of my being are spinning jauntily in separate orbits strewn around the room. The substructures of my personality have been cleanly severed and separated for close scientific inspection. There is absolutely no sense of a single ego or identity serving as a unifying principle rallying all of these disconnected pieces into a coherent whole.

The most remarkable facet of the experience is that nothing that's happening is bothering me. I'm totally detached, observing everything from a vantage point of emotionless scientific objectivity. Hideous visions and images are neither more nor less pleasant than beautiful ones. So my left arm has turned into a stump? Interesting. What if Los Angeles gets nuked during my trip? Now that would be really interesting, wouldn't it? "Fascinating, Captain."

After about 45 minutes I begin to reassemble into a coherent, unified entity focused at a single point in space and time; the primary effects of the drug are wearing off. As for secondary effects, my vision is still blurred, and my physical coordination is impaired--so much so that I have to crawl into the bathroom to take a piss. My mind, on the other hand, seems perfectly clear. As my coordination returns I feel refreshed, invigorated, energetic.

I've got a nagging feeling, however, that I might not have landed in the same universe I left three-quarters of an hour ago. If my aim has been one cosmic decimal-place off the mark, I could have ended up in any of a number of parallel worlds, perhaps in one so subtly

altered from my own that I won't be able to tell the difference for days or even weeks--until, for instance, I notice that my driver's license shows the wrong middle name.

Time for a reality check. I decide to phone my girlfriend to make sure that she also exists in whatever universe I've ended up. If whoever answers the phone has never heard of her, I'll have to take another shot of "Vitamin K" to chart my course back home. I dial the number and after a few rings she answers. I heave a big sigh of relief. Any universe containing at least a reasonable facsimile of her is good enough for me.

4/10/89 100mg "Vitamin K" self-administered via intramuscular injection

Effects come on rapidly. First visual image is two crossed syringes reminiscent of the "skull and crossbones" icon used to identify poisons.

The vision is disturbing; I'm scared. But fear seems less an emotion than a chemical whose pathways of release I can trace through the cells of my body from the dispassionate scientific vantage point I've now come to associate with Vitamin K.

I meditate on the nature of fear. Why do we spend so much time and energy avoiding the things we fear, when in our final, inevitable confrontation with our demons they so often dissipate, revealing themselves as phantoms of our own creation? Because fear is a biological adaptation whose purpose is to impel organisms to move away from or otherwise avoid physically threatening stimuli. Avoidance is built into the program. No longer a necessary response to environmental menaces like the tigers who chased primitive men, our fear persists like a cumbersome, anachronistic appendage with few useful functions, pointlessly generating gang warfare and nuclear weapons. In trying to keep one step ahead of our fears, we leave footprints which scare us. But fear is just a chemical! The only thing we have to fear is fear of fear; fear itself is nothing to be afraid of.

I giggle inwardly at my own thoughts, and my inner laughter courses through my body like a vibration through a bowl of jelly. In fact, I am jelly! I'm a rippling, shape-changing amoeba. We're all just glorified amoebas, throbbing bags of primordial ooze, overgrown condominiums for chromosomes. Biology is destiny; spirit is pure pretension. Evolution is a joke. Intellect is the delusion of self-impressed perambulatory aggregates of pond-scum.

I decide to try to control my visions, and choose to see a garden. Vibrant daffodils and lotus flowers bathed in Maxfield Parrish luminosity drift before my closed eyes...

Soon I'm back in "consensus reality." Physically clumsy but mentally stimulated.

History

"Vitamin K" (or sometimes just "K"), the drug responsible for the experiences I've related above, was originally used as an anaesthetic in human and animal surgery. K is considered particularly safe in this context because the chances of heart or respiratory failure under its influence are considerably smaller than is the case with most other anesthetics. This wide margin of safety has led to specialized applications with older people and children. But "emergence reactions," intense psychedelic trips which patients experience as they come out of anesthesia, have caused K to fall out of



favor with the medical establishment, at least in the United States.

Vitamin K is chemically derived from PCP ("Angel Dust"), another chemical used in veterinary anesthesia. But the K molecule is structurally simpler and lighter than that of PCP, with a much shorter duration of effects, which are generally agreed to be very different from those of its chemical cousin. K does not produce known permanent neurological or physiological impairment, whereas such damage is suspected with PCP.

In human surgery, K is injected intramuscularly or intravenously. Intramuscular injection produces anesthesia of longer duration, but requires a higher dosage than intravenous administration, which is shorter-acting. Dosage is calculated according to chosen route of administration, desired duration of anesthesia, and body weight. K is therefore administered intramuscularly in doses of 3-6 mg per pound of body weight (750 mg produces 12-25 minutes of anesthesia in a 150 lb. person), or intravenously at a rate of 0.5-2.0 mg per pound (150 milligrams produces 5-10 minutes of anesthesia in a 150 lb. person). K is usually packaged in small bottles holding 500 mg suspended in solutions of 10, 50 or 100 mg per millilitre. "Lethal Dose 50," the dosage level at which it is suspected 50% would die, is estimated at 17 times surgical dosage.

It might have happened this way: one day, probably in the early '70s, an adventurous M.D. decided to check out the "emergence reaction" for himself. After some experimentation he discovered that 50-100 mg injected intramuscularly (only about one-seventh to one-fourteenth of a surgical dose, and less than one percent of a potentially fatal dose) produces a 20 to 45-minute trip without ever generating the total unconsciousness of anesthesia. The M.D. liked the trip and K-mania was born.

Also in the early '70s, John Lilly, inventor of the isolation tank, famed neuroscientist, and pioneer of human-dolphin communication, was turned on to K by an M.D. named Craig Enright. Originally their purpose was to cure Lilly's migraines (this experiment was a success--he hasn't had a migraine since his first dose). Lilly's years of intense and mind-blowing exploration with this substance, resulting in, among other things, repeated contact with "extraterrestrials," are recounted in his book *The Scientist*.

In the late '70s and early '80s, some psychotherapists experimented with K (more on this later), and a non-medical or "recreational" following developed as well. There are now perhaps a few thousand recreational users in the United States, almost all of them in California, and a maybe few thousand more in Europe. While penalties for unprescribed possession of K are approximately equal to those for valium or any other prescription drug, it has become increasingly difficult to obtain for recreational use, at least in the US, where frequency of medical application has tapered off drastically.

Effects

"Reaction to K varies even more widely from person to person than with other drugs," notes Bruce Eisner, a psychological researcher in Santa Cruz, California, and author of *Ecstasy: The MDMA Story*. My conversations with a few dozen people who've tried K confirm Bruce's observation. Some are horrified by the experience precipitated by the drug and never try it again. Some become nauseous and throw up. A few users report hangover-like after-effects; a noted Yoga teacher and writer told me "I really paid for it the next day." Others process K with remarkable physiological ease and become wildly enthused about its psychedelic dimension. (Even the most devoted users mention several alarming hazards and pitfalls--a point I'll get back to later.)

"Among those who like Vitamin K," notes "Professor

K," a particularly articulate user with a sky-high I.Q. and a masters degree in philosophy, "there is a remarkable consistency of effects." This assertion has been borne out by my research. Most K aficionados confirm at least in part the following constellation of mind-blowing effects: 1) dissociation, resulting in an almost totally dispassionate perspective, and classic dissociative phenomena: "out-of-body," "astral travel," and "near-death"-type experiences; 2) jacking into information networks in a sort of Vitamin K cyberspace; 3) contact with and participation in alternate realities; 4) communication with "extraterrestrials" or "disembodied entities"; 5) tantric enhancement of sexual activity; and 6) assistance in personal and creative problem solving.

The key to the experience of Vitamin K is dissociation. You assume a different point of view, one outside your body, outside your ordinary self and everyday concerns, even outside space and time. Some find this sensation quite disturbing, even terrifying, and exhibit nausea and vomiting when they come down from the drug and "back into their bodies". Others are intrigued by the opportunity provided by a novel vantage point.

One feature of dissociation is the kind of passionless perspective I assumed in my own K-trips, an effect reported almost universally. One occasional user told me that this attitude is "so objective that it's dangerous. So objective that you don't care if you live or die." An erotically oriented visual artist I'll call "Doctor Tantra" told me, "if you were on K and sitting in front of a Mack truck speeding towards you at 90 miles an hour, you'd be as concerned about the safety of the driver as you would be about yourself. And you probably wouldn't really care about either one." As one can imagine, this aspect of K-consciousness has resulted in some pretty foolhardy activity and rumours of a few deaths.

Dissociation under K has led many users to experiences resembling "out-of-body," "astral travel," and "near-death" experiences. Doctor Tantra tells of out-of-body travel to "locations which seemed totally real. I was always looking for details which would confirm the reality of these trips, but I never managed to succeed."

One infrequent K user reports a classic near-death experience during his first trip. "I was convinced I was dead. I was floating above my body. I reviewed all of the events of my life and saw a lot of areas where I could have done better." When he emerged from the trip and realized he was still alive, he felt that the kind of insight K had catalyzed would make the drug very useful in psychotherapy. Doctor Tantra has had similar experiences: "It was wonderful. Dying was like going home."

These rehearsals of death can lead to a rather altered perspective on the departure from the mortal coil. In *Storming Heaven: LSD and the American Dream* by Jay Stevens, Stanislaw Grov, M.D. is quoted as saying, "If you have a full-blown experience of K, you can never believe there is death, or that death can possibly influence who you are." A particularly devoted K user concludes, "Death sucks, but it's better than nothing."

Many K-heads talk about plugging into Tron-style info-spaces or, as Professor K calls them, "metaconnection networks." The professor says that sometimes he is the information pulsing along these superluminal cosmic microchip circuits in a partyline conversation with other participants who are similarly bodiless. On other occasions he feels as if he's communicating with the "behind-the-scenes selves" of his friends. Once he and a friend both recalled meeting and talking in their separate dreamspaces.

One network Professor K jacks into is a "reality maintenance control office: a sunken, carpeted computer room where I join a network of cosmic supervisors regulating reality." This phenomenon has resonances in the experience of many other K-maniacs, and may be related to the sense Professor K and other experimenters report of becoming the focus of cosmic forces or "the center of the universe" under the drug's influence. In Peter Stafford's *Psychedelics Encyclopedia*

VITAMIN K

one user reports "contact with Beings who seem to be running things here on Earth." Similarly, John Lilly discusses his communications with ECCO (Earth Coincidence Control), the local bureau of Cosmic Coincidence Control. This is a hierarchy of entities who manage coincidences in a fashion intended to spur us Earth Monkeys along in our evolutionary growth.

Lilly and other users have reported that they are admitted as members of this angelic control network for the duration of their K-trips, but are then banished back to Earth to become terrestrial operators on the hierarchy's behalf. In *The Scientist*, Lilly describes his impressions of this syndrome: "Somehow I am being programmed by sources far greater than the human... I am doing these experiments at the behest of someone or

"While I have merely glimpsed alternate realities, many K-heads actually enter them and participate in the local festivities."

something far greater than I or the human species." Doctor Tantra calls this phenomenon "becoming an agent of the molecule--one little servant of the great K." He says, "Its purposes are benevolent, but you don't know what your role is. You have to figure that part out for yourself by just trudging along and doing your shit."

As for alternate realities, one user says, "I never met a reality I didn't like." Professor K reports, "I've repeatedly visited a sort of hillside arcology--a community where a number of people live harmoniously inside a hill, a sort of humane hi-tech cave with big windows. There are a lot of trees outside, and the view is lush and green." Professor K also tells of several trips to "garbage worlds--cosmic trash dumps," and to one universe where he walked corridors formed between gigantic rectangular blocks of frozen information. Another user

reports excursions into a particularly agreeable parallel world where he is regarded as "The Lord of Space and Time" by all the inhabitants. In some of his writings, John Lilly tells about a trip to the future, one millennium from now.

While I have merely *glimpsed* alternate realities, many K-heads actually enter them and participate in the local festivities. After repeated experiences of this sort, some users discover that they can consciously create, construct, control and alter these worlds. "Imagine that you could invent whatever scenario you wanted," says Professor K enthusiastically. "It's as if you've got a reality synthesizer in your head. You're in front of a holographic TV screen with no need of a remote control, because with your thoughts alone you can design your own program, enter the screen, and participate as both actor and director. You can be anyone from Conan the Barbarian to yourself in an alternate reality. If you don't like it, you can switch programs and identities instantly. Pick a universe, any universe!"

Contact with extraterrestrials is another frequent K-theme. A psychiatrist and his wife told me they had a number of experiences of this kind which they found "quite convincing." John Lilly has sometimes referred to the ECCO entities as ETs. Lilly is reported to have said that these extraterrestrials once told him they had genetically engineered all large-brained mammals--primates, dolphins, whales--on another planet from DNA samples taken from Earth. The ET's later planted the fully-evolved animals back on our planet. On a different note, Lilly publicly related that he was once convinced under K that these same extraterrestrials had cut off his penis (his wife reassured him that the organ was still attached).

K users also talk about interesting effects in the sexual arena. One woman told me that passage of time seems so dilated under the drug that the sex act slows down to the speed of "continental drift"--a change in consciousness which might be attractive to those who enjoy extended foreplay and like to feel continent-sized.

continued on page 75

Precautions and Recommendations

Usage of Vitamin K is characterized by significantly greater hazards and pitfalls than other psychedelics. If you choose to experiment with this drug, we strongly urge you to employ the following precautions and optimal "set and setting" conditions:

1) Don't eat for a few hours before the trip. This minimizes the possibility of nausea and vomiting. No alcohol should be ingested for several hours before the trip, but most users report that grass is OK.

2) Use a quiet environment. Hearing becomes very sensitive under K. Play unobtrusive, non-vocal music. Many prefer Philip Glass, Terry Riley, Robert Fripp, etc. A tape of forty-five minutes or longer will prevent you from having to attend to the stereo during the most intense portion of the trip. If you are comfortable with low light or darkness, such conditions may enhance exploration of the visual dimension of the drug.

3) Have a baby-sitter, preferably an experienced user present. Agree that he or she will keep quiet and leave you alone unless you request otherwise during the course of the trip, or unless it appears that you're about to do something dangerous.

4) Observe all normal precautions for using syringes and needles--i.e., use fresh, sterilized needles, inject slowly and carefully, never share needles, etc. While injecting yourself in the ass can

be awkward, the chances of hitting a nerve in this area are slight. Alternate locations include the thigh and upper arm.

5) Immediately after you shoot up, lie down on a comfortable bed, preferably with a lot of pillows. You now have from one to five minutes before onset of effects.

6) At this point, program yourself not to move for the next hour or so. If for any reason you must move during the trip, exercise extreme caution. Coordination will be heavily impaired; any motion within about 60 minutes of injection may cause nausea and vomiting. After this period, don't move until you feel comfortable doing so, and be careful even then.

7) Avoid smoking cigarettes or joints after shooting. Impaired coordination may lead to burns or even housefires; some users have been known to absent-mindedly extinguish cigarettes and joints on the bedspread.

8) Load your syringe with only one dose at a time, and don't take another shot until at least an hour after the first. Otherwise, you may inject yourself sloppily or fall into the trap of semi-automatic, unpremeditated re-dosing.

9) Allow yourself about three hours after your last shot to remain relatively still. Coordination will remain somewhat impaired during this period, so don't try to cook, drive, or do anything else that involves fine muscle control.

10) Don't give your home phone number out to any extraterrestrials. Collect calls from the Andromeda galaxy can be quite expensive. ●

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ASKED

continued from page 55

PYRAMID ENERGY

I use pyramid-energized water. I have noticed that my plants grow stronger, and insects don't like to chew on the leaves and suck the juice out of the plants. My clones root faster, sometimes without rooting hormone.

I also use a copper coil on a wood stick and it seems to increase plant growth by 10-15%. Insects don't attack plants with a copper coil around them.

--Ironman
Chicago, IL

People have claimed good beneficial results using these methods, but there have been no replicated experiments verifying their results. Any homegrown researchers ready to take on the challenge?

DEAD CUTTINGS

I have put cuttings from my mother plant in 1 1/2" rockwool cubes. They are in an enclosed unit, receiving 24 hours of light from two 18" fluorescent tubes. The cubes sit in 1/4"-1/2" deep water. The rooting compound and fertilizer are quarter-strength. My problem is that about 40% of the cuttings develop a white powder on the leaves within the first two weeks. Then they turn yellow-brown and die. What's the story?

--Lucifer Sam
San Diego, CA

A fungus is attacking the cuttings. This usually occurs when they are weak. This might happen for several reasons. The water probably lacks oxygen, is too cold and has become alkaline from contact with the rockwool cubes. It should be aerated using an airstone and pump, heated using a heat coil or mat, and the pH should be adjusted using a pH adjuster. Make sure to maintain high humidity by covering the unit.

HYBRID VIGOR

Would cuttings, or future generations of cuttings, from an F1 hybrid plant which exhibits hybrid vigor, also show hybrid vigor?

--Curious
Portland, ME

Yes.

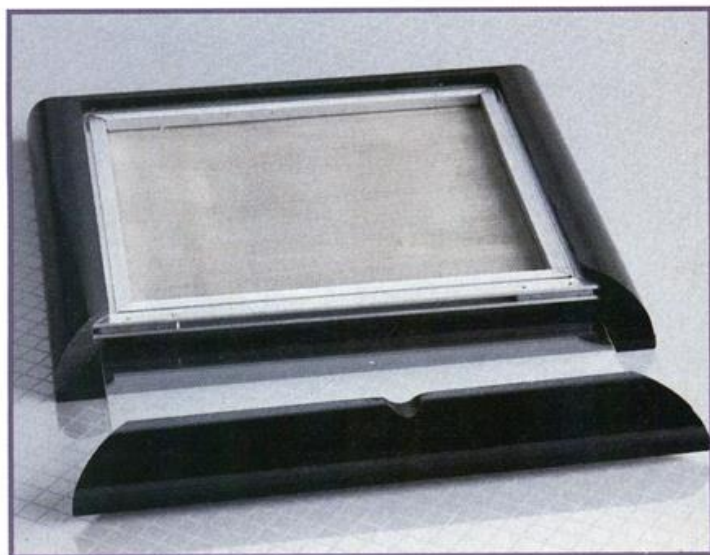
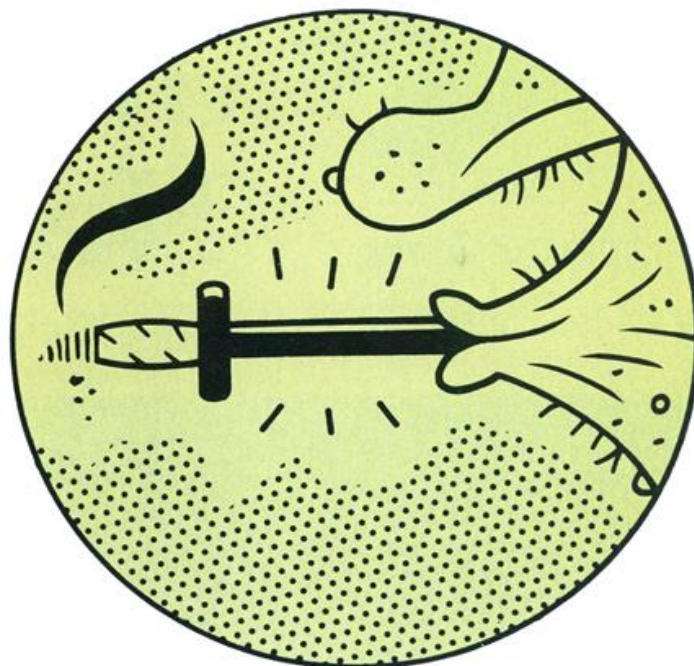
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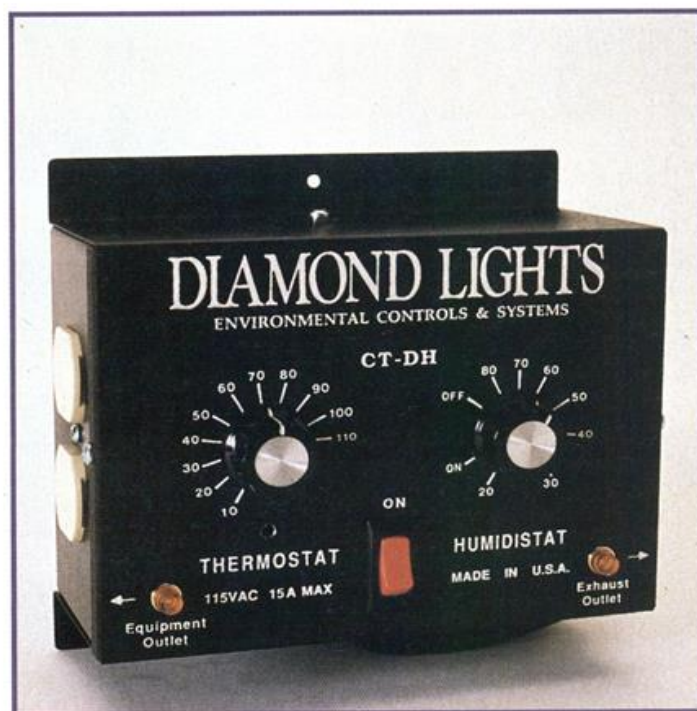
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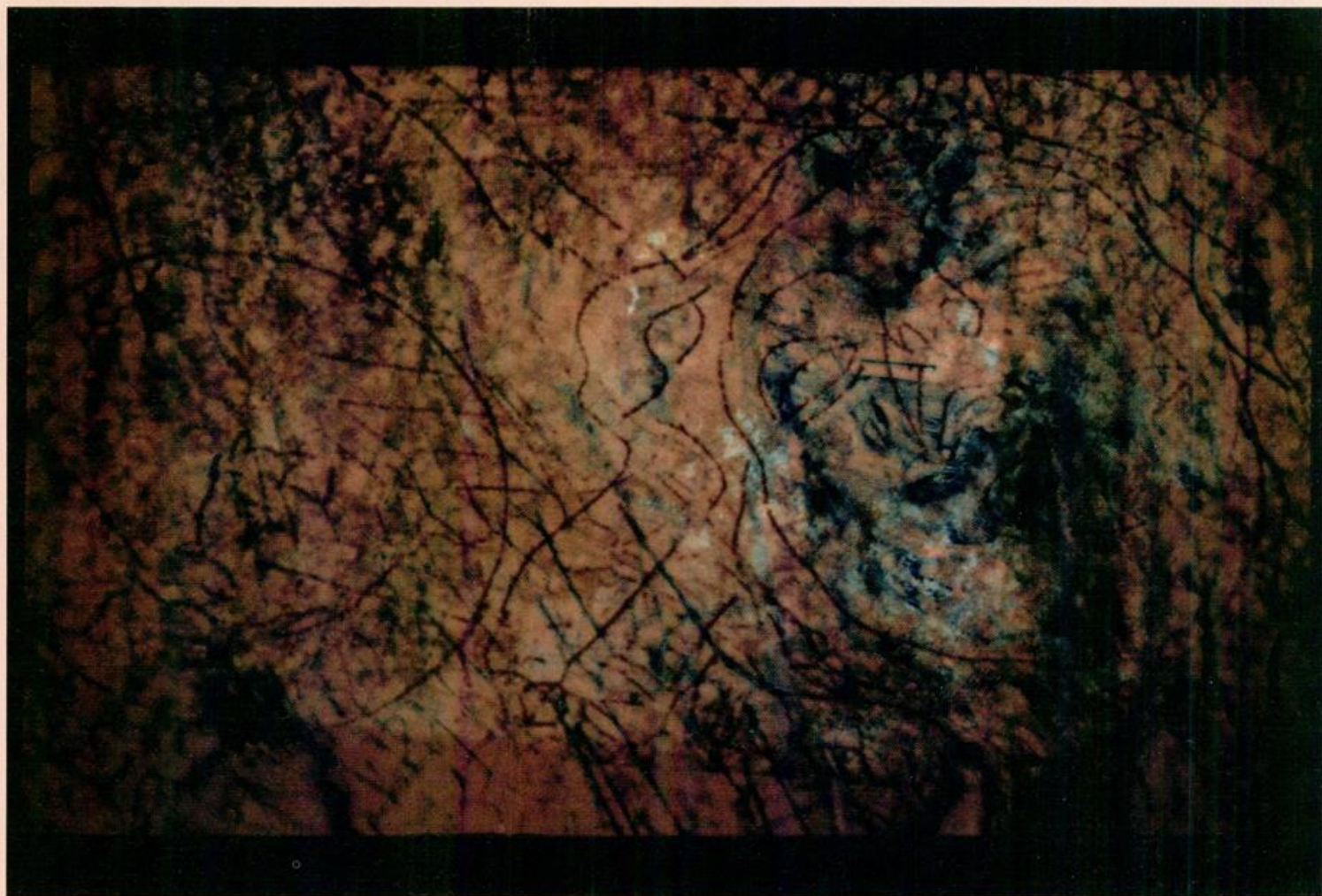
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ASK ED

POLICE DETECTION

I grow both indoors and outdoors and my biggest worry is about infrared detection from the air.

Can pot growing inside a residence be detected because of the heat produced by lights and ballasts? Is there any way to prevent detection outdoors, using some type of reflector?

Are there any books available on infrared photography and other police methods of detection?

--Sierra Grower

Plumas County, CA

Police use several methods to detect marijuana outdoors. Most busts are the result of sightings by "concerned citizens," rangers and other government workers, informers and property owners. The primary method is optical sightings, using binoculars on low flights as well as

photography. Visual detection is not hard for the experienced eye in areas where most vegetation browns out or turns color in late summer or early fall. Although the government has tried to use satellite technology, it has turned out not to be very cost effective.

Infrared photography detects the heat being emitted or reflected from an object. Marijuana usually stands out from its background when photographed this way. I know of no method of camouflage. However, although infrared can be used, its use does not seem prevalent.

Almost all indoor busts come from informers, lax garden security, accidents and suspicious circumstances.

Even though people are proud of their gardens, they should be kept secret for safety reasons. Jealousy, envy, ruptured relations, disagreements and revenge all provide motivation for snitching. One correspondent was informed on by a casual acquaintance he had smoked a joint with. She had been busted for shoplifting and ratted on him in order to avoid arrest. Most indoor busts are based on informant tips.

Light leaks, tell-tale odors and unusual, inappropriate patterns have all caused busts. One grower lived in an apartment building and his two neighbors complained to him about the odors. Eventually they

complained to the management company, who called the police. My own experimental flower and vegetable gardens have been attacked by burglars who saw the bright lights. They did not lift a single zinnia.

Accidents and environmental stresses can also be responsible for busts. High electrical use may attract electrical company representatives worried about shorts. Water leaks may upset neighbors.

Infrared lights can detect "hot spots," but cannot pinpoint an illegal grow room. Heat could be coming from a kitchen with an oven, someone ironing, heaters warming a room, or a dozen other sources. I do not think there would be any basis for a warrant.

PRETTY PENNIES

My main concern is electric bills. Running a 400 watt high pressure sodium lamp (400w HPS) continuously must cost a pretty penny. Can you give me tips on inexpensive lamps to buy and run?

--Going Broke

Detroit, MI

A 400 watt lamp running 24 hours a day uses a little less than ten kilowatt hours per day. At eight cents an hour, that comes to about 80 cents a day, \$24 a month. At ten cents, it comes to \$1 a day, \$30 a month. At 15 cents, it comes to \$1.50 a day, \$45 a month. If the lamp is running only 18 or 12 hours a day divide those figures by .75 or .5 respectively.

HPS lamps are the cheapest to own. Although they cost more to purchase, they produce so much more light than other lamps that they make up their price in less than a year.

SHORTER CLONES

I took clones from my first females and induced flowering as soon as they were well rooted. They now have showed sex after eight days of short-cycle light.

The internodes of the clones are 1/4"-1/2" shorter than the original mother plants. Is this due to cloning? Will future clonings increase the shortening?

--The Dude

Atlanta, GA

Clones usually do have shorter internodes than mother plants. Future generations of clones will maintain the same internode length as the original clones.

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ASKED

REGENERATED PLANTS

A friend told me that if you grow a plant with a big root system and cut the stem back to one foot after you harvest, it will survive the winter freeze and grow back the next year. He said it can be done for several years. Is this true?

--Lost Soul of the Ozarks
Colcord, OK

Plants can be regenerated. However, cannabis is usually killed by freezing weather. In order to regenerate, some leaves must be left on the plant. The easiest places to do this outside are areas where the winters are mild and it never freezes. Plants can be protected from wind and light frost by wrapping them lightly in mulch or plastic.

LONG-TIME CUTTINGS

I am having a lot of trouble getting my cuttings to root. It takes forever to get the NL and Skunks to develop any roots and then it takes them forever to start growth.

I keep the pH at 6.8 and am using a 5-50-17 fertilizer with a few drops of B1. The cuttings are dipped in liquid hormone and placed in a rockwool cube. The plants stand tall and green as long as it takes, but there must be some way to get them to root and go into growth.

--The Southern Farmer
Eutawville, SC

The medium is too cool. Use a heat mat or heating cables to keep it at 70°. Make sure to keep them in high humidity by covering the unit with clear plastic.

SAFETY POT

I grow indoors in a soilless mix consisting of one-third peat moss, one-third perlite and one-third vermiculite. I use 20-20-20 for vegetative growth and Super Bloom for flowering. During the last four weeks I use straight water. The quality of my first harvest was good but the stuff refuses to stay lit. How can I avoid this in the future?

--J.S.
Dallas, TX

The plants suffered from nutrient deficiencies because they were not fertilized for the last four weeks. Fertilizing with a flowering formula until the last week should solve the problem.

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VITAMIN K

continued from page 66

Doctor Tantra tells me that "the best place to take K is in bed with someone you love. It's a great way to play doctor. The mingling of energy fields is terrific. Just as LSD and nitrous oxide is a four-minute crash course in Bhakti Yoga, K is a lesson in Tantra."

Once, under a combination of MDMA and K, he and his lover both hallucinated that they were making love passionately. When they came down from the trip, they discovered that they were fully clothed and had merely been touching fingertips.

I've also been told of a number of episodes in which K has been used successfully for personal and creative problem solving. Professor K recently had the experience of reducing his consciousness to a microscopic point which entered his body to do battle with persistent anal bleeding--and hasn't exhibited any symptoms in the four weeks which have now passed since the experiment. The same user who reported the vivid near death-type episode described earlier told me that his first dose of K precipitated the dissolution of a long-term case of writer's block.

Psychotherapeutic Applications

The verdict isn't really in on the matter of K as an aid to psychotherapy. Little research has been done in this area and opinions differ widely. Stan Grof has written that K is "the least interesting psychedelic substance from the therapeutic point of view, since the experience results in little lasting emotional and psychosomatic transformation," although he does acknowledge "remarkable philosophical and spiritual revelations and fascinating insights into the cosmic process by which reality is created."

Similarly, Bruce Eisner suggests that the experience of K "is so focused in the intellectual dimension, as opposed to the emotional arena, that I imagine it would be of less use in psychotherapy than other compounds. A further problem is that it's very state-bounded--it's sometimes hard to remember the insights you may have had."

On the other side of the controversy over therapeutic potential, one pair of Iranian psychiatrists reported tremendous success in using K to induce abreaction--the release of previously repressed emotions. They led their subjects, all patients in a psychiatric ward, into an experience of whatever they feared most. Then the psychiatrists gave their subjects a psychedelic dose of K, which allowed the patients to see the source of their terror from a vantage point of fearlessness. These psychiatrists reported that many of the individuals given K under these circumstances were soon successfully released from institutionalization.

Another positive report comes from a recent study in Denmark which suggests that K "appears to provide an opening into the depths of the psyche, whereas other psychopharmacological agents instead lead to a closing up. The emotional states with which a person grapples in everyday life are generally amplified. Unfinished business and distorted or diffuse emotional states can acquire clarity and definition under such observation and reflection, at best leading to resolution.... One of the results of this experience can be a new understanding of one's own situation."

An obvious line of pursuit was followed by an institution in the San Francisco Bay Area in the early '80s. K was administered repeatedly to terminally ill patients as a way of preparing them for their imminent deaths. Predictably enough, administration of K in this program was reported to result in significantly decreased fear of death on the part of the participants.

Doctor Tantra suggests that one therapeutic potential of K may lie in the fact that "it's the ultimate in psychological regression. I've gone back to the state of complete trust in which an infant lives. That trust is what I'm referring to when I say that K is good for

'playing doctor'--you completely surrender to whatever your partner is doing to you. The experience also looks infantile from the outside--people resort to crawling, babbling nonsense syllables, and drooling." The report from Denmark mentioned above also discusses the possibility of K as a useful agent of regression.

Hazards and Pitfalls

Among the widely reported and rather serious hazards of K-use is what John Lilly has called "the repeated use trap" and "seduction by K." While there's no evidence of physiological addiction, many of those who enjoy K find the state it induces so desirable that they use the chemical constantly until their supply is depleted--even if they have access to a very large supply and the process of using it up takes several years. This phenomenon earned K a reputation in the late '70s as a kind of "psychedelic junk." One observer characterized K's early reputation this way: "A lot of people who tried it, didn't like it but many of those who *did* like it got hung up on it."

Doctor Tantra observes, "Part of the seduction of K is that it features no withdrawal, so you don't have to be worried about what might happen if you run out. However, after months of perhaps several shots a day you start to run into physical problems--among them digestive difficulty and inability to urinate."

Another hazard is the occurrence of what Lilly calls "automaticities"--automatic, unintentional physical activities. It's as if the body keeps going while the mind is on vacation. Doctor Tantra notes that "if you're moving around as the K comes on, you'll continue moving around during the trip. Then you can do something really stupid, like walk into a wall or off a cliff."

"Just as LSD and nitrous oxide is a four-minute crash course in Bhakti Yoga, K is a lesson in Tantra."

In a relatively harmless example of automaticity, one K-user repeatedly walked into a wall after shooting K. He finally asked his companion, "Where's the door?"

"There has never been a door there," came the response.

"Well, there should be!" the user replied emphatically.

Professor K reports having battered a watch under the influence of K, while Doctor Tantra recalls having once resorted to sitting on a user's chest to prevent him from becoming violent. Even the act of shooting up itself can become an automaticity--leading rapidly to the "repeated use trap." A combination of automaticities and repeated use led Lilly to several close brushes with death, recounted in *The Scientist*. Such hazards prompt Professor K to conclude, "I recommend not shooting up K unless you're lying down and have preprogrammed yourself not to move for an hour or so. You should also program yourself not to shoot up again for at least an hour after the first shot." Lilly suggests doing K only while in an isolation tank, and having a "safety man" present at all times.

Another very occasional problem reported both by recreational users and medical literature is convulsions. Once as Professor K's consciousness returned to his body after a shot of K, he found himself lying on the floor a few feet from the bed he'd been lying in when he shot up, indicating to him the possibility of a fairly serious convulsion at some point during the trip. Spasms have also occurred during surgery in patients anesthetized by K. These incidents might suggest that K is not a good risk for epileptics.

Conclusion

The unique properties of K defy comparison to other psychedelics. The drug's potential for exploring previously hidden recesses of psyche and experience

continued on page 82

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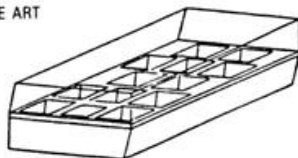


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LETTERS

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Belated Thank-you note to my late editor and friend Tom Forcade

Dear Tom,

I never got a chance to formally thank you for letting me serialize my novel *Murder at Elaine's* in the pages of *HIGH TIMES*. In fact, you bastard, you took your life before the damn book came out. Still, I'd like to take this opportunity, now ten years too late to say some things about you as an editor, because a lot of people remember you more for your colorful life and forget that when you put your mind to it you could be a talented and inspiring editor. And you did put your mind to it on my behalf.

It was shortly after I left a job editing *MORE*, the journalism review. We were sitting around talking and I'd mentioned my passion for Dickens, said something about the manic excitement that must have been involved in writing his novels in monthly, even weekly serials. You picked up on the fact that it was my own secret dream to try it; we talked about setting it in the hyped up world of post-Watergate media celebrity, some kind of satiric vision of Manhattan High and Low. And then you let me do it. You backed it with brilliant art direction by Toni Brown and terrific neo-Chandleresque illustrations by Taylor-Doret. You had a lot of sharp observations about characters, and plot twists when I'd painted myself into a corner. Like the best editors you made every element of the magazine work on behalf of the story. The deadlines were harrowing, but it was a thrill I'll never forget as a writer. Maybe some day I'll try it again, and if I do I hope I'm lucky enough to get someone as inspired and thoughtful as you as an editor.

Thanks again buddy,
Ron Rosenbaum

TOM FORÇADE

continued from page 44

people, and fired Andy Kowl and Paul Tornetta.

Meanwhile, in the wake of their American tour, the Sex Pistols broke up. Rumors that "punk is dead" followed. Tom spent hundreds of thousands on a film about a group that no longer existed, and that movie business people considered box office poison. Worse yet, Warner Brothers sued to prevent the movie from being released, and Pistols manager Malcolm McLaren refused to allow Forçade the song rights. Tom tried everything to help get the film out. He even offered to pay Johnny Rotten \$1000 to attend a screening of the film, but Rotten refused. Sadly, Tom didn't live to see the day of its release.

PARANOIA STRIKES DEEP

In March of 1978, Larry Flynt, publisher of *Hustler* magazine, was shot after leaving an obscenity trial in Lawrenceville, Georgia. Forçade had recently signed on with Flynt's alternative distribution company. Like Forçade, Larry Flynt had built a fortune publishing an outrageous magazine, and bucking the system. Even their enemies lists were similar---Flynt had taken out full-page ads in several major newspapers offering \$1 million to help "solve JFK's murder." Aside from gangsters and the CIA, there were many who wanted to see Flynt dead, from Christian fundamentalists to the Ku Klux Klan. *Newsweek* observed that "Flynt had offended mobsters, who now control much of the distribution of pornographic newspapers and magazines in the U.S.," by setting up his own distribution network. The assassination attempt threw HIGH TIMES' financial situation into chaos, as distribution payments lagged behind.

Things went from bad to worse. In May, best friend, Jack Coombs, died in a plane crash. He had been attempting to land a plane, loaded with contraband, when it hit a tree. Tom had encouraged and helped Jack get his pilot's license, and was even on the ground, watching it as it happened.

"Tom felt that he caused it," recalls Tom's cousin. "Whether he did or he didn't, he felt that he had caused it."

Jack had always been the person who helped Tom through his manic-depressive episodes. It was a terribly tragic irony. Not only was his best friend dead, and not there to help him, but Tom blamed himself for what had happened. Facing Jack's family was almost more than he could bear.

Still, he tried to ignore the tragedy and keep everything going. He visited Hollywood in an attempt to start a HIGH TIMES film company. Besides *The Smugglers* and the Sex Pistols movie, he was involved in *Cocaine Cowboys*, a film starring Tom Sullivan, a smuggler friend of Tom's, Andy Warhol, and Jack Palance, in one of the most bizarre performances in screen history.

Forçade was turned down by everyone in Hollywood. Indifferent to any of his projects, film producers showed interest in only one thing that Tom had to offer---Forçade wheeled and dealt with the finest cocaine they had ever snorted. Tom was interested in becoming a Hollywood producer, not a Hollywood dealer. The Los

Angeles experience just depressed him even more.

"He was starting to disintegrate," says Andy Kowl. "He wanted desperately to take this money that he had and put it into a big entertainment venture. He felt that the magazine was no longer big enough for his vision."

"Things were bad for him," Gabrielle says. "He was in money trouble. The plane must have cost a lot of money, the movie was a disaster, and he was very disillusioned by going out to Hollywood."

Laws against HIGH TIMES and drug paraphernalia were being passed. He launched *Stone Age*, an imitation HIGH TIMES that Forçade hoped would take the outlaw element out of HIGH TIMES. He felt the only way to save the magazine was to go mainstream.

Lacking the sophistication of its parent magazine, *Stone Age* did the same thing all the other HIGH TIMES imitators did---it failed miserably.

Although HIGH TIMES was still selling well, Tom's outside projects were not. Although it's not clear how he lost control, in the weeks and days before Tom's death, the HIGH TIMES financial managers pulled the plug on all of his outside interests---*Stone Age*, the fledgling Alternative Distribution Network, *Punk* magazine, the Sex Pistols documentary, and, worst of all to Tom, the New Morning Bookstore.

"These were decisions that Tom was not happy with," Craig Copetas recalls. "The people who controlled the money at HIGH TIMES were not friends of Tom's. They were what I would call 'management people from hell.' They were not very sophisticated, I would dub them sleazy. At that point in his life he was getting very frustrated with everything that he had created. Mentally, I think he wanted out, which is what I think really led to his suicide."

"They were all banding together and giving him ultimatums," Jim Drougas, New Morning's manager, recalls. "I had a meeting with them the same day that he died, and they were getting pretty severe. They were saying things like 'The book store's going to be sold; we're going to get rid of it; we can't be bothered with it; it's not worth our trouble; and some heavy things are coming down.'"

Tom had even more serious problems. According to Dana Beal, who remained one of Forçade's closest friends up until the end, informers and federal agents "were just breathing down Tom's neck. His smoke-selling loft was busted. His hotel rooms at the Fifth Avenue Hotel were busted." There were rumors that the feds were preparing an indictment. chic eder, who wrote for HIGH TIMES and was involved in several smuggling adventures with Tom, was unmasked as an informer by Tom's lawyer, Michael Kennedy.

Tom fell into a dark mood. It was late autumn, when his seasonal depression hit hardest. He began to speak in paranoid tones about everyone in his life---they were all cheating him, or were out to get him. He wrote an editorial for the *Yipster Times* calling for the formation of the sequel to the YIP and the ZIP parties, the RIP party. Finally, he isolated himself in his apartment, refusing to see anyone.

On November 19, 1978, Craig Copetas called Tom and urged him to fly to Los Angeles. Craig, NORML director Keith Stroup, and Hunter Thompson were all going out to the *Playboy* mansion for a party---Hugh Hefner's NORML fundraiser party. When Craig called, Tom told him not to go. There were some things Craig would have to take care of. Craig answered, "What are you talking about? We have to go out to this party in L.A."

Tom said, "Be available. Be available."

When Craig called him back at 3:00, Tom started mumbling on the phone, "Craig, take care of the magazine and make sure we get good lawyers. You're going to need them. Take care of business. Take care of the magazine."

Craig shrugged it off, and promised to call him that weekend and tell him how the conference was.

Jim Drougas stopped by Tom and Gabrielle's that day for lunch. He brought the receipts from the bookstore. Tom refused Gabrielle's offer to join them. She asked, "Can I get you something to drink?"

He replied, "Nothing."

She said "Okay, I'm right there in the other room if you want anything."

He said, "Okay, you'll hear from me."

"What I heard," Gabrielle recalls, "was a gunshot."

She found the body, and started crying. They called for an ambulance, which got there very quickly. He was kept alive for a short time.

"The following day," says John Wilcock, "when the Guyana mass suicide took place, I thought to myself, 'If Tom had waited one more day, he would definitely not have killed himself. It was much too big a story for him not to have been interested in. He would have been so absorbed in that story, he probably would have gone down there.'"

After his death, some of the things Tom had worked on died. *Punk* magazine folded a short time later, *Stone Age* went under, and AMACS, the Alternative Media Empire, never even got off the ground. The Sex Pistols documentary, *D.O.A.*, was eventually completed, released to theaters, and is now available on videotape. After several bitter struggles for power, HIGH TIMES rescued itself from the brink of bankruptcy several times and is still around, selling better than ever. The Underground Press Syndicate, AKA the Alternative Press Syndicate, is currently in limbo.

Tom Forçade was a galvanizing force, a media genius, an organizational wizard who made things happen. It's no coincidence that the marijuana legalization movement has fallen on hard times since he passed away. A man like Tom Forçade doesn't come along very often.

Some theorize that he killed himself because he felt there was nowhere left to go. "He decided to blow himself away because that is the way to be remembered," says Michael Kennedy. "That is the way to make your statement. That was Tom. That was Tom's brilliance, also, because at the time he blew himself away, he was at the peak of his powers."

Ed Dwyer notes, "The '80s would have killed Tom if he didn't kill himself."

It is difficult to imagine Tom living through the yuppie decade. Although he liked to think he was the original punk, he was really "the ultimate hippie." ●

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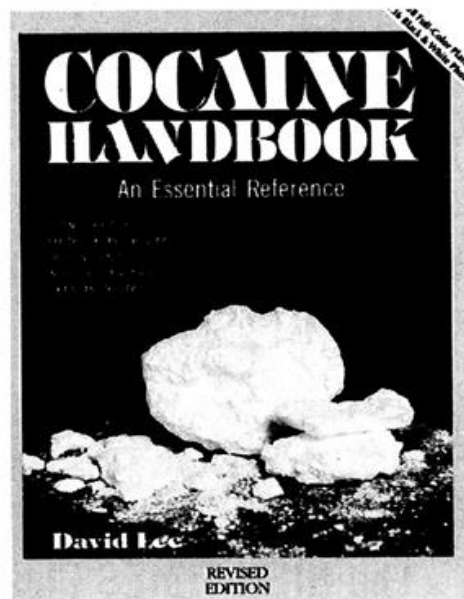
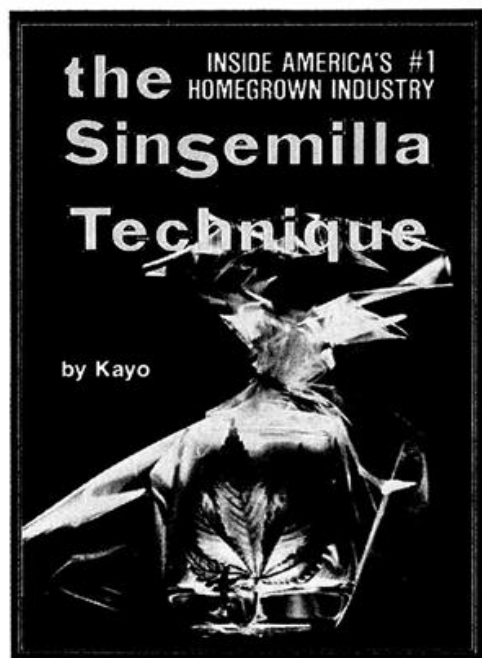
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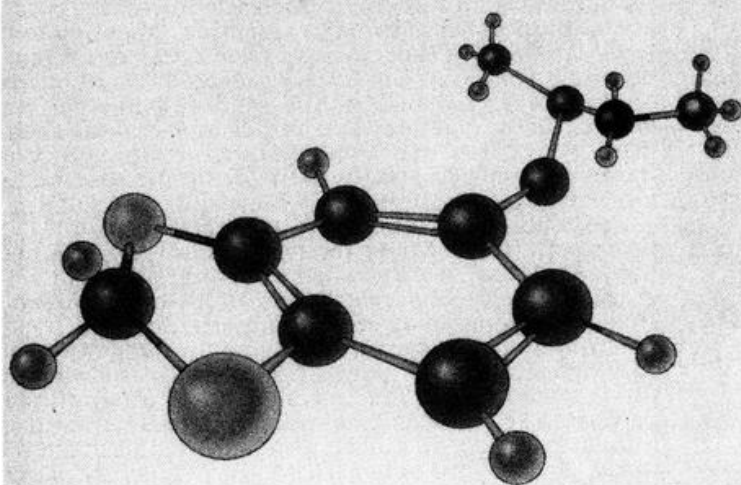
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VITAMIN K

continued from page 75

seem enormous, particularly regarding our understanding of death, near-death episodes, and "out-of-body" travel. While no firm conclusions have been made in terms of K as an adjunct to psychotherapy, there have been several promising leads in the direction of this molecule as an agent for physical and psychological healing and personal and creative problem solving. Further clinical research conducted in a supportive environment by people who've used the drug themselves thus seems a promising avenue of potential discovery.

Furthermore, reported personal contact with "extraterrestrials", "alternate universes", and the domains of subatomic physics may turn out to be more than intrapsychic phenomena. If such experiences could be confirmed as having some "objective" validity, we would have to acknowledge K as an extraordinarily powerful tool for expanding our understanding of reality itself, a remarkable drug which represents the incursion

"At one moment, my left arm seems to shrivel down to a withered stump while my right arm grows into a gigantic tree which sprouts lizard limbs."

of science fiction into our daily lives.

For me, the most interesting aspect of Vitamin K has been the period of coming down from the drug, known as "re-entry." Having passed through the phase of feeling psychically dismembered, with all the substructures of my personality floating about randomly in a sort of primordial Soup of consciousness, I begin to "reassemble." It seems to me that I can *control* the fashion in which I put myself back together. As Professor K says, the drug "gives you the opportunity to redefine your relationship to 'reality'--whatever that is." I feel as if I'm capable of activating my physical and mental subsystems in the same orderly manner I would boot-up a computer, checking and correcting error along the way. When I return to "normal" consciousness, my mind and body seem tuned up and "de-bugged" by this process; I'm a leaner, cleaner, reprogrammed machine.

The choices I make about reassembly reflect information I've gathered about myself while out in K-space. The dispassionate perspective provided by Vitamin K allows me to view the way I conduct my life as if from the outside, preventing me from getting upset by observations which I would otherwise find devastating. From the vantage point of K, highly charged psychological "problems" become mere technical difficulties. I'm no more emotionally involved than a mechanic troubleshooting a car engine, and this objectivity allows me to examine aspects of my own thought and behavior which I would normally avoid analyzing out of cowardice.

Dissociation from one's normal condition, which is K's greatest asset, can become an escape; it is therefore the drug's greatest liability as well. Vitamin K unquestionably provides a "vacation" from one's usual physical and emotional state and its attendant pain, fear, preoccupation, and worry. You may choose to use this vantage point to examine your "ordinary" self with scientific objectivity, or to distract yourself from such concerns entirely. "Seduction by K" results from the desire to turn this vacation into a lifestyle. Professor K

summarizes the situation succinctly: "Instead of using K to redefine your relationship to the world, you can choose to try to *make K your world*, an undertaking which is inherently dangerous."

Indeed, judging by the anecdotal evidence I've assembled, the hazards and pitfalls of "recreational" use loom dramatically larger than with any other psychedelic. I've spoken with or read about thousands of people who've used LSD, mushrooms, mescaline and MDMA. These "user pools" feature a very small percentage of accounts involving complications, difficulties and abuse arising from use of these drugs.

The picture that has emerged from the few dozen people I've spoken to about K (all of whom have related the stories of four or five of their friends and acquaintances) is alarmingly different. I'd estimate that *more than half* of those who've tried and *liked* K have become involved in the trap of repeated use at one point or another. In most cases this syndrome in some way destructures, disorganizes, and even threatens their lives. You're not even remotely functional under K, and the more time you spend on the drug, the easier it is to forget this fact and become a hazard to yourself.

I recently heard a fairly typical story about a prominent writer whose nearly constant use of K over the last several years has led to lasting paranoia, grandiose delusions (relating to what Doctor Tantra calls "becoming an agent of the molecule") and potentially fatal behavior including jumping out of a moving car. This woman had been trying to "integrate the K-state into her nervous system" by attempting to perform all her normal activities while under the drug's influence. Unquestionably, she had tried to make K her world. Twenty-five of her friends have recently packed her off to a detox center.

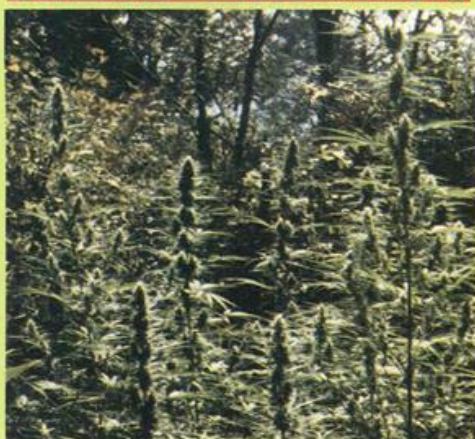
Of course, psychological and physiological predispositions determine the likelihood of a particular individual getting into trouble with a given drug. Not everyone who tries heroin, which is highly addictive, runs into difficulty. Many of the people who use cocaine, now considered psychologically addictive, avoid problems. However, many of the people I know who've run into trouble with K have used and successfully avoided complications with marijuana, cocaine, MDMA and the traditional psychedelics. This fact seems to indicate that K involves significantly greater inherent pitfalls than these other drugs.

Because of the high occurrence of such horror stories, I've been reluctant to write about Vitamin K at all. In *MDMA: The Ecstasy Story*, Bruce Eisner suggests that any publicity about a drug, whether good or bad, results in greater numbers of people using it. In light of the patterns that have emerged from my research into K, such an outcome in this case would probably be undesirable, perhaps even disastrous. (On the other hand, it seems unlikely that K's popularity will increase. A large proportion of the people who try it don't like it, and many are dissuaded from experimenting with K by the necessity of using needles.) Furthermore, I've found it very difficult to write about the experience precipitated by the drug among its devotees without making K seem very attractive--a real quandary in the case of a drug which seems to present serious difficulties for an unusually large percentage of its users.

You may or may not want to try K, and the choice is yours. I don't consider it my job to recommend for or against the use of any drug. I have chosen to write this article in the hopes that my effort to provide as balanced and complete a picture as possible will be of help in informed, intelligent decision-making in cases where the drug is already available.

If you choose to try K, *be careful*. Please pay close attention to the precautions and recommendations provided in the accompanying article. If you try K and *like it*, be *doubly careful*. Beware of the temptation of repeated use. There is no question that this drug, while fascinating and perhaps quite useful in certain contexts, is seductive and significantly more hazardous than other psychedelics. ●

NEXT MONTH



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continued from page 73

GIBBERELIC ACID

In the June '89 column you discussed gibberellic acid. I really wouldn't advise it. I tried it several years ago with poor results.

It stimulated male stamens on female plants, reduced THC content, caused elongation of stems, which made many of the plants fall over, and produced stringy buds.

If you want good pot, stick to good seeds and cultivation practices.

--South Kansas City Cripple
Weed Society

Kansas City, MO

Thanks for recounting your experiences with gibberellic acid. Obviously, this substance should not be used ordinarily. However, you mentioned its ability to produce male flowers on female plants. The pollen from these stress-induced flowers contains no male chromosomes. Resulting seeds would produce only female plants.

Most correspondents have not had success using gibberellic acid to induce male flowers. We would like to hear from readers who have, detailing their methods.

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--Beach Grower

Marina Del Rey, CA

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--R

Santa Fe, NM

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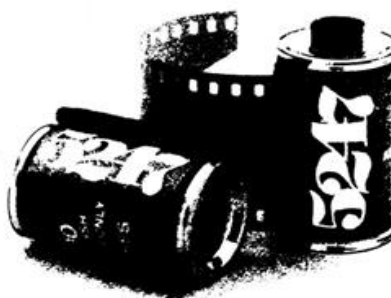
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ASK ED

EARLY GARDEN PLANNING

I would like to share my outdoor growing system with your readers.

First, I find a secluded area near water, in the fall, after the hunting season ends. The best spots are in the middle of brush, briars or groups of small trees planted closely. The cover should be tall enough to hide the plants when they get tall, but not so high to shut out sunlight. I cut the brush back and turn the soil over in an area three to four feet in diameter and about one foot deep. Then I lime and fertilize with a high nitrogen fertilizer and wait until spring.

I start planting about the middle of April, after the soil starts warming up. I dig a hole six inches deep and a foot in diameter in the center of the prepared spot and fill it with Wal-Mart potting soil, which has a pH of 7. I plant ten seeds in each hole and cover them lightly with grass or leaves. Plants get a better start when the potting soil is used and it encourages better root growth.

I place a wire rabbit cage one foot in diameter and 8" tall, open at the top, around each hill. This keeps mice, rabbits, birds and other pests away from the plants. The wire is removed once the plants have a good start, usually within 4-6 weeks. I fertilize with Ra-Pid-Gro 23-19-17 every two to three weeks during the summer. The potting soil allows liquid to soak deeply into the soil.

I usually have 7-8 plants growing in each hill, which is then thinned so that I end up with two or three females per hill. When budding starts I switch to Miracle Gro (15-30-15). I generally powder the plants lightly with Sevin dust to keep away unwanted bugs.

I keep deer away by making some small cloth bags out of brown or green cloth, fill them with dried blood and put one on each hill.

When I visit a patch I generally carry a fishing pole or a 22 rifle, just in case I am accidentally seen. I carry a pair of wire cutters in my pocket to trim away any limbs or weeds which are shading the plants. I am extra careful not to leave a path to my patches.

When it's harvest time, I clip off the buds then pull up and dispose the remainder of the plant. If the same places are to be used the next year, I mulch them real good.

This is my second year of growing

and I have had excellent results. As long as good seeds are used and Mother Nature cooperates, very good results can be expected.

--The Bud Man
Fulton, MS

Thanks for your tips for early starters.

HYDROGEN PEROXIDE

I use 35% food-grade hydrogen peroxide (H_2O_2) to germinate seeds, for foliar feeding, and to water plants.

I mix it at a rate of 16 drops per quart or five ounces per 20 gallons of water. Since I've started using it, my plants are a lot healthier and my growth rates and yields have doubled.

I now get between 1 1/2-2 ounces per square foot (psf) using soil, organic fertilizers and 40 watts HPS psf.

If you want to read more about this, send \$4 to:

Wake Forest
P.O. Box 768
Monterey, CA 93942

Ask for a magazine called *Now What*, issue #1. You can buy 35% H_2O_2 from some health food stores or order it by mail from:

Agric Health
4242 E. Blanton Rd.
Tucson, AZ 85712
It costs \$6 a pint or \$26 a gallon.

--Coma Dope Grower
Berrien Springs, MI

Thanks for the tip.

Hydrogen peroxide is also available in pharmacies, diluted to 3% or about 1/12th the strength used by our correspondent.

This treatment is experimental and controversial and should not be tried on an entire crop. Instead, try it on a small part and see what happens. Then report back here.

• I welcome comments, tips, and questions regarding marijuana and marijuana cultivation. Send all letters to Ask Ed, HIGH TIMES, 211 E. 43rd St., New York, NY 10017. Also send entries for the Bud, Plant, and Garden of the Month Contests. All correspondents whose letters or photos are used will receive a free copy of my book, *Marijuana Growers Handbook*, Indoor/Greenhouse Edition.

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Happy Anniversary

Every year, we try to do something special for you readers in our Special Anniversary Issue. Here's what we've done in years past.



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Electronic Drugs: Safe, Legal, Available Now!; Heavy Metal: One Fan's Perspective; Koh Samui: Sex and Drugs in Thailand; Grow Rooms For Under \$50; The Motion of Light in Water (by Samuel R. Delaney).
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June 1987 No. 142
Psycho Cop Runs Wild in Sauk City (by Steve Hager); Earth First! Eco-Guerrillas Fight Back; Grower's Alert; 13 Lucky Years With HIGH TIMES; Hair: The Ultimate Culture Threat.
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June 1986 No. 130
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Tom Forcade Interview; Marijuana and Health: Tenth Report to the U.S. Congress; What to Feed Your Plants; Interview: Dean Latimer; The Fifth Column: Monarch Mania.
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June 1983 No. 94
Fabulous '60s Issue; Tales of the Zen Bastard (by Paul Krassner); Copping (by Michael Bloomfield); I Remember the Sixties (by R. Crumb); Songs of the '60s Experience (by Allen Ginsberg); Reefer Madness
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June 1982 No. 82
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OCTOBER 1989



FAT FREDDY

by GILBERT SHELTON

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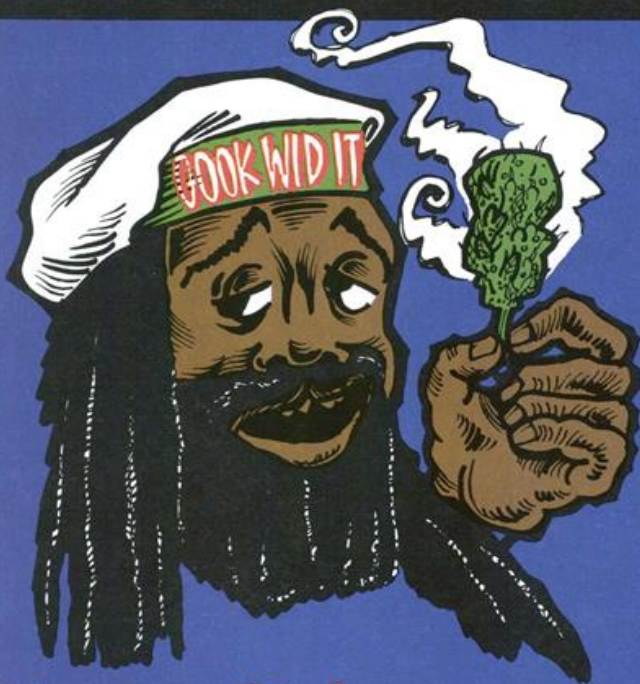


TOP 100

3.	BONG HITS	28.	+T
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	DEBBIE'S NORMLTHON FUNDRAISER	30.	JA
	METALLICA		

turn the page
-for-
MICHAEL
PEARLSTEIN'S

STICKERS



**Hippie Tofu
Enchiladas** by CHEF RA

beer!

by HOOCH
HARRIS



Granny
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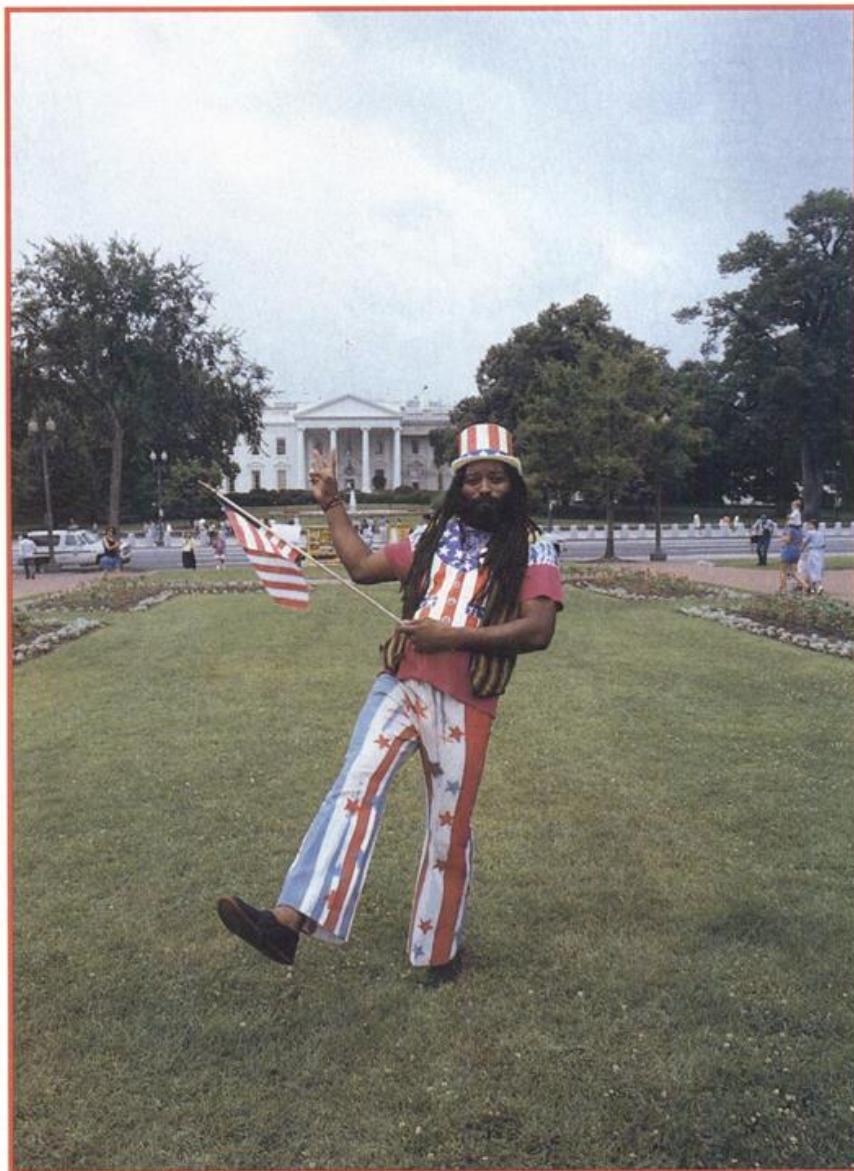






RASTA RECIPES

by CHEF RA



ANDRE GROSSMANN

Such a wild year it's been for Chef Ra and the Freedom Fighters. With a thick trail of ganja smoke following us, we have tread merrily across America greeting all you happy hippies! From Ann Arbor's Hash Bash to Madison's Harvest Festival, we've "busted" our ass to help legalize pot in '89! The entire crew at HIGH TIMES and the folks from NORML have been committed to the Pot Revolution and also had loads of fun on the road. Never a dull fuckin' moment in this movement. There have been dozens of tragic misfortunes (broken buses, vans, cars, people) that could have stopped us, but we kept on pushing! So even when things look bad in life, Chef Ra asks *you the reader* to stick with us! Keep a positive attitude because we have a lot of work to do!

Now it's time for progressive party people

to seek new direction and purpose. Since the "cultural-political revolution" of the '60s we have been fighting a lot of negative vibrations in this country. The opposition forces continue to pull the same "dirty tricks" in an attempt to divide and conquer us, so that we spin our wheels over bullshit. All the politicians are attempting to mire-and-muck us folks in what I call "Circular Socio-Political Deprivation" or "ring-around-the-rosey horseshit." Yeah, they get us fans all "heated up" over flag-burning, religion and race, while we fail to see what's really happening! We're losing our rights! Our privilege to party this world down to the ground! For instance, we all know the environmental-ecological uses of marijuana as hemp! But who's foolin' who!?! Chef Ra don't want no fucking Rope--he want the fuckin' Dope! I still believe that

psychoactive drugs can turn the tide against the authoritarian monsters that are currently trying to rule the lives of the people. Getting high undermines their "jump in line and don't think for yourself" mentality. The Cultural Revolution will prevail among all the tribes of the world. Babylon must fall. But first, let's smoke a spliff! Worldwide society has become socially and politically too rigid and frigid. They have created societies of socio-sexual-racial-repressed individuals. Repressed human beings do nothing but cause big trouble. Murder, rape and war become the outlet for these frustrated fuckers! Chef Ra says, "Smoke the Peace Pipe so we can heal from the wounds of war! Legalize Pot I say! Pot is Mighty! Legalize in '90!"

Chef Ra's Hippy Tofu Enchiladas with Ganja Sauce

These Mexican-Hippy Enchiladas will make it possible for you to take a "trip" without going south of the border!!

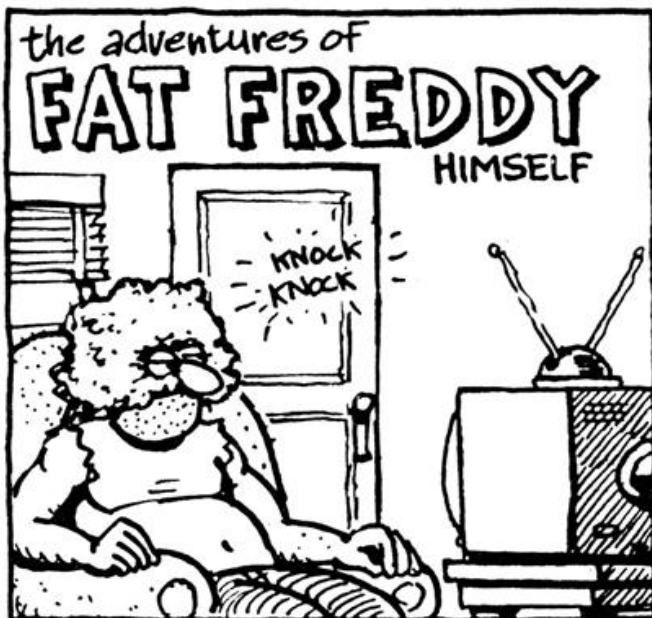
2 cups of chopped tofu
1/2 cup chopped green chilis (mild)
1 chopped yellow onion
2 cloves of chopped fresh garlic
1 cup of refried beans
1 cup of cheddar cheese
1 cup of monterey jack cheese
2 chopped green onions
1/2 tablespoon cumin powder
1 tablespoon chili powder
2 cups of Enchilada Hippy Sauce
1/4 fine green sinsi
3 tablespoons of vegetable oil
6 tortilla corn shells

Saute onions, garlic, chilis, and tofu in vegetable oil. Brown lightly with 2 tablespoons of oil. On very low heat add green sinsi to 1 tablespoon of oil and cook on very low heat for 15 minutes. Then saute ganja, tofu, etc. Add 1/2 cup of both cheeses with cumin, chili powder and 2 cups of Enchilada Hippy Sauce to the saute-ed mixture. Dip corn tortillas in Enchilada Sauce, then roll saute-ed mixture into each shell. Put in baking pan, add more sauce and bake at 350° for 10-15 minutes. In the last 5 minutes of baking add rest of cheeses. Serve.

Enchilada Hippy Sauce

3 cans of tomato sauce
1 cup of chopped fresh or canned tomatoes
1/2 cup of green chilis
1 teaspoon red pepper
1 teaspoon cumin
1 tablespoon chili powder
1 teaspoon garlic powder
1/2 cup of water

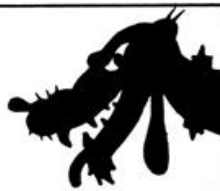
Add ingredients together and put into sauce pan. Cook mixture on low heat for 10 minutes, then add sauce to saute-ed mixture. ●



GILBERT SHELTON

HOUND'S EYE

by JAMES MARSHALL



An aging hippie pal of mine was commenting on death-metal. He remarked: "In my day all we had was Country Joe & the Fish to trip to." Well, no matter what the nostalgic love generation leftovers might tell you, long before Country Joe & the Fish and the Velvet Underground and the Jefferson Airplane and various other exponents of psychedelia and substance culture, there were musicians singing and playing their homages to the joys of your, dear readers, fave pastime--getting high. Let us set the wayback to those wild and woolly days before WWII.

Jazz musicians were notorious heads right from the start and they left a body of recorded work to document their fun. Don Redman popularized a tribute to everybody's favorite guy--"The Reefer Man"--in 1927, in a tune that was later covered by Cab Calloway, one of the first black band leaders to enjoy "crossover" (i.e., white) success. But Cab usually set his musical dope musings on the harder stuff, like on "Kicking the Gong Around" (about smoking opium, 1933), and we all know what was giving "Minnie the Moocher" those funny dreams, now don't we?

Benny Goodman was the "King of Swing," at least among whites, and back in 1933 he saw fit to wax the joys of a "Texas Tea Party" on a recording that featured Gene Krupa (who'd later do time for heroin although Hollywood changed it to weed when Sal Mineo played Krupa in the 1959 Gene Krupa Story).

Gene organized his own big band in 1938 and one of his first records was a bouncy little ditty called "I'm Feelin' High and Happy." I'll bet. Louis Armstrong was arguably the most influential jazz musician that ever blew and he cut a dope tune "Muggles" (early slang for marijuana) in a 1927 disc that featured Earl "Fatha" Hines on piano. Ella Fitzgerald might've bitched about her stupid basket one too many times for you readers to think she ever had much on the ball but she began her career warbling with the great Chick Webb orchestra and cut one of the first cocaine tributes--"Wackey Dust"--back in 1938.

Bessie Smith ended her amazing recording career by growling out her order for "a reefer and a gang of gin" at the height

of prohibition in her 1933 classic "Gimme a Pigfoot," and Benny Goodman was there playing a fine and sleazy clarinet solo. Piano great Fats Waller cut the "Reefer Song" in '43 and the jazzman turned R&B star recorded the tale of a poor harassed junkie in "Junco Partner" in '48.

Harry "The Hepster" Gibson made a career out of dope references. His biggest hit was an early speed opus--"Who Put The Benzadrine In Mrs. Murphy's Ovaltine"--a much covered 1944 record. Other fine dope jazz tunes include Barney Bigard's "Sweet Marijuana Brown" (1945, with the great Art Tatum on piano), The Harlem Hamfats' "Weed Smoker's Dream" (1936), Cee Pee Johnson's "The G Man Got The T Man" (1945, first narc song ever?), Buck Washington's "Save The Roach For Me" (1944) and Julia Lee's "Sweet Marijuana" (1947; she'd move into sticky double-entendre numbers by 1950).

Blues singers weren't nearly as wordly as their jazz playing counterparts but they liked

specialty, sex and booze tunes. Last but not least we find former prize fighter turned barrelhouse piano man Champion Jack Dupree who cut "Junker's Blues" in 1940 and "Weed Headed Woman" in '41. He'd later cut the classic dope and disease LP *Blues From The Gutter* for Atlantic in 1959 and included a re-recording of "Junker's Blues" as well as such dirty-needle classics as "Bad Blood" and "Can't Kick The Habit." Fats Domino would clean up "Junker's Blues" changing the object of indulgence from heroin to pork chops and score a #1 R&B hit "The Fat Man" in 1950.

Country singers of the era were basically bumpkins but we do find drug references on such early hillbilly discs as Dick Justice's "Cocaine" (1929) and Riley Puckett's 1932 adaptation of Mississippi John Hurt's "Nobody's Business" to which he added the lines: "Cocaine's gonna drive me crazy, morphine's gonna make me lazy;" he later goes on to extoll the virtues of pimping and murder. Smokey Wood bespoke of an affection for opium in his original recording of "Keep On Truckin'" in 1937, the same year Tommy Duncan delivered the immortal line "I can sell you morphine, cocaine or snow" in his classic "I'm A Ding Dong Daddy From Dumas." The Texas Rhythm Boys ushered in the new era of speed songs back in 1944 with "Benzadrine Blues" and country

music was never the same.

The above is just a sampling of just how much of this stuff there was. Record companies didn't bother to censor these tunes because either (a) they were too square to figure out what the musicians were talking about (especially

when the slang terms like "viper," "muggles" and "reefers" were used), and (b) the only people who bought these records were blacks and hillbillies. So if your mom ever feigns shock at stuff like Lou Reed's "Heroin," or any other assorted rock 'n' roll dope references, tell her what her mom was listening to, and tell her to shut up while you're at it. If you'd like to check out some of these hep sounds, try writing to Stash Records, 611 Broadway, Suite 411, New York, NY 10012 and ask for their catalog. Their dope discs (and CDs) include *Reefer Songs*, *Reefer Madness* and *Viper Mad Blues*, as well as a full line of sex sides and other great jazz and blues compilations. Tell 'em the Hound sent you. ●



to get high just as much. Probably the first dope blues was Victoria Spivey's "Dope Head Blues" from 1927 (with the astounding guitar work of Lonnie Johnson). The Memphis Jug Band jumped on the "just say no" bandwagon about 58 years too early with their "Cocaine Habit Blues" from 1930. Leadbelly on the other hand was generous with the powder, as evidenced in his 1934 disc "Take A Whiff On Me" (when Mungo Jerry covered it 36 years later it was banned). Jazz Gillum and Big Bill Broonzy knew a "Reefer Headed Woman" and sang about her in 1938. Frankie "Half Pint" Jaxon was a great blues singer and female impersonator who served up a good dope tale in his 1927 waxing of "Willie The Weeper" as a change of pace from his usual

HOOCH HARRIS

by ELLIOTT HARRIS



Not too long ago some eggheads found some raggedy old clay tablets laying around, where this place Assyria used to be. The tablets depicted stick figures pouring grains and water and whatnot into humongous clay pots. Reading on, these same stick figures were drinking from the clay pots. Not much further down, the stick men were depicted falling down drunk, pissing up against walls, fucking stick women in alleyways... the usual. Must be these clowns were NOT so backwards as we thought. Seems beer was invented about two days after pot. Of course, the recipe got around fast, what with all the marauding and raiding and shit going on back then. Any developed country (meaning any group of people who stuck around in one place long enough to grow grain) fiddled around with it 'til they got it right, and things've been Jake from then on.

Now, I couldn't begin to tell you the names they gave this stuff back then. I wasn't there so I won't lie. But beer has more names (nicknames, I should say) than grass itself. Huffcup, Go-by-the-Wall, Mad Dog, Father Whoreson, Stride Well, Angel's Food, Dragon's Milk, and my fave, "Lift Leg," were all common names for beer back when

Elizabeth was holding court. Now you've got Ale, Mum, Bock, Faro, Grog, Scud, Suds, Belch, Stingo, DOUBLE Stingo if it's really good, Swipes... all kinds of names and degrees of beer. And all because some dummy left a crock of grain out one night and it happened to rain. Lucky us, eh?

We-e-e-ll, this is the '80s. And unless you live near a brewery, or better yet, brew your own, you're sort of stuck with what the Big Boys want you to drink. I'm talking about the Big Campaign Boys: Buttweiler, Sewers, Millie Low Life--THEM! They'd have you believe their's is the only beer to stock next to that lonely jar of mayo in your fridge. You just can't score no babes without a Buttweiler. Your dick won't get hard 'less you got that Malt Licker bull in your hand. And you women out there! Get with it! Only Olive Oyl drinks anything but the Silver Bullet!

I beg to differ. I'm here to tell you that after the first one, damn near all beers taste the same. And some can taste a damn sight better for a lot less of your hard-earned money. I mean, when you go to the local beer store, are you trying to impress your pals or get drunk? Figure it out--you're paying an extra buck or two for that Buttweiler that was probably made so many

hundreds of miles from your hometown and who knows how long ago and they add so much salt to the shit so it'll "travel" AND you'll get so thirsty after THAT one, of course you'll order ANOTHER Buttweiler.

I know a lot of you will probably say, "Aw, Hooch done lost his mind," or "He's in his cups this time." But, do yourself, not me, a favor. Next time you buy a six of America's favorite beer--I don't care what brand, save one can or bottle in your fridge for two weeks, and then compare that one from a brand-new sixpack. I can't swear you'll taste the diff that first time. But, believe me, it happens more times than not you got a six from Texas last week and one from St. Lou today. And brother, there IS a diff.

Then go to your corner store and check out the local brew. Read the label. "Why, it's made of the same stuff," you'll say. Take it home. Maybe rent a video with the money you would've spent on that six of Sewers. If at first it don't taste good, try another local brand. You're bound to find one home brew that beats the piss out of the Big Boys.

And I'm glad to report there are a lot of you out there who are brewing your own beer. Besides the fact that there are a lot of new breweries popping up all over, home brew can't be beat. It doesn't take long to hook up a batch, and a brewing kit can be had for a nominal fee. My good friend Ken Weiner, who makes his own beer and wine at home, recommends Semplex (Box 1146Z, Minneapolis, MN 55411). Write to them for a catalogue of beer brewing equipment. Think of it--when your pal calls you over to try some of her newly-harvested skunk, wouldn't it be nice to say, "Y'know, I think I'll bring over a couple bottles of my fave recipe and we'll make a night of the whole thang!"

There's maybe one more thing I'd like to say on the subject: Beer doesn't have to be cold. That's another one the Big Boys pulled over our eyes. Think about this too: Like I said, folks've been drinking beer about as long as they've been smoking pot. Do you think Cleopatra had a cooler on that barge? And when Doc Holiday or Leif Ericson or Taras Bulba ordered a brew, do you think they cared whether it was cold or not? Hell, no!! As long as that stuff is wet and ain't cloudy, it's beer. "Cold" means you can't taste it. It bites its way down your throat. You don't really taste the beer. It's just cold and wet. People always used to drink warm, sweet, local beer, and didn't care if it was cold or not. And that's really how beer, whiskey and wine should be served. In other words: "If it don't taste good warm, throw it out!"

What I want to say is, like Smokey's mom told him not so long ago, "Shop around, dope." Don't fall for Unka Sham's brew!! Hell, if you can grow your own, brew your own!!! And it's legal (up to a point). "Support your local brewery" as well. They deserve it. The Big Boys are buying them out left and right. Do you really want to be stuck with Butt Wiper and Adolph Sewers? ●



FRANK MAX

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TOP 100

1. **NORML** 2001 S ST. NW
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2. **ASK ED**

3. **BONG HITS**

4. **WILLI 1ST ANNUAL HIGH TIMES**
+ DEBBIE'S NORMLTHON FUNDRAISER

5. **METALLICA**

6. **CHRIS + GREG, THE ULTIMATE PARTY DUDES,**
SAY: "FREEDOM FIGHTERS BAND
TOGETHER + SAVE THE PSYCHEDELIC BUS!"

7. **pink floyd**

8. **MINNESOTA GRASSROOTS PARTY:**
HEMP FOR VICTORY

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10. **BAREFOOT + TRIPPING**
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11. **THE ULTIMATE PARTY HOUSE**
CHRIS + GREG'S
CHICAGO'S N' SIDE
AKA PARTYSIDE

12. **RUSH** GEDDY, ALEX, NEIL
MEANINGFUL MUSIC

13. **JOEY WORLD SOUTH**
OF MARKER 88

14. **LEGALIZE IT!**

15. **THE VOID** EDINBORO
PA'S FINEST
"HEAD BAND"

16. **GROWING YOUR OWN**

17. **BOYCOTT COCAINE**

18. **GRATEFUL DEAD**

19. **JESUS** WORSHIP THE CREATOR
OF ALL, NOT THE CREATION

20. **SLAYER**

21. **THE INN** TOUR FOR NORML
7th Street, Charlotte NC

22. **The Young Ones**

23. **HOWARD STERN**

24. **CHEEBA AT FAIRCHILD'S**

25. **VAN HALEN**

26. **SMOKE PARTY TIME**

27. **SEX**

28. **+THE CULT+**

29. **A FREE AMERICA**

30. **JANE'S ADDICTION**
(ROCK 'N' ROLL)

31. **WAKE-N-BAKE**

32. **I LOATHE THE GRATEFUL DEAD**

33. **FREE ALL PRISONERS OF PROHIBITION!**

34. **ABBIE HOFFMAN WAS ASSASSINATED BY THE DEA**

35. **Urine Samples Make Civilians**

36. **PEACE + LOVE = SMILE**

37. **HOEING THE WEEDS OUTSIDE BUT NOT INSIDE**

38. **BIG BONG HITS...**
POUNDING DOWN SOME BEERS...
AND WATCHING THE BUNDYS

39. **THE DIXIE**
COLUMBIA, S.C.

40. **PRAISE THE ALMIGHTY**
FOR HE IS THE GIVER OF HERB

41. **PARTY AT SPUDBOYS**

42. **SAVE THE OZONE!**
SAVE THE RAINFOREST!
GROW FIELDS OF POT!

43. **GENESIS 1:29**
GOD'S OK

44. **BIRTH YOUR BABIES WITHOUT ANESTHETICS!**

45. **KENTUCKY HOMEGROWN**
(THERE'S NO PLACE LIKE HOME!)

46. **STONYBROOK SUMMER**

47. **I ♥ FEMALES**
HUMANIDS + CANNABINIDS

48. **MY CAT, SAM**

49. **LEGAL SMOKE**

50. **GROLSCH DUTCH LAGER**

51. **PUT DEA AGENTS OUT OF WORK-LEGALIZE!**

52. **HEALTHY HEAD**

53. **LET'S GET WASTED DUDE**

54. **MARK + JIM'S HERB AWARENESS SESSIONS WITH THE BLUE BUDDHA MARK III**

55. **DARREL ♥ SHARON**

56. **TOKE IT EASY**
CARLA + VAL DO

57. **ABRACADABRA VIDEO-WHAT A JOB!**

58. **EAT THE APPLE AND FUCK THE CORP.**

59. **LONG, SLOW ORAL SEX**

60. **CHEF RA**

61. **CHINESE STUDENT DEMONSTRATORS FOR FREEDOM**

62. **Aiko-Aiko SEE A LOADED!**

63. **REALIZATION IS THE FIRST STEP TO LEGALIZATION**

64. **FRONT 242**

65. **THE WAR ON DRUGS IS A WAR ON PEOPLE!**

66. **Border Bowls**

67. **AS OFTEN HAPPENS IN THIS WORLD OF TRAVAIL + CHEAP WINE, THE RIDICULOUS BECOMES THE SUBLIME**

68. **Bust one up!**

69. **IM6 UB9**
(THINK ABOUT IT)

70. **PEACE**

71. **Billy Bob's Fun Club**

72. **SAVE AMERICAN FARMING LEGALIZE HEMP!**

73. **ALEXANDER COCKBURN**
(WORLD'S BEST COLUMNIST)

74. **LOVE YOUR EARTH- DON'T LITTER**

75. **ALL OF THE ABOVE**

76. **FUBAR**

77. **PACIFIC NORTHWEST WEED**

78. **PLAY MADSTOP BONG HIT MONOPOLY-IF YOU LAND ON A CORNER, YOU DO A BONG HIT**

79. **MY NEWBORN SON, JOSHUA**

80. **HASH DAILY, ACID MONTHLY**

81. **WATCHING TREES ON ACID**

82. **TENNESSEE BURN!**

83. **MILITARY FREEDOM TOKERS**
FUCK URINALYSIS TESTS

84. **Rosicrucians**

85. **FREEDOM IN CHINA, IN RUSSIA, IN AMERICA!**

86. **COLORADO BUDMASTER-THE GROWER OF KILLER KLOSET KLONES**

87. **EEK-A-MOUSE**

88. **"YOU WAKE UP AND YOU'RE STILL DREAMING"**

89. **FOR THE EARTH SHALL BE FILLED WITH THE KNOWLEDGE OF THE GLORY OF THE LORD, AS THE WATERS COVER THE SEA.**

90. **ROLLING ROACHES**

91. **STOP BEING SO APATHETIC-VOTE ALL THE DAMN POLITICIANS OUT OF OFFICE**

92. **HARVEST TIME (YEAH!)**

93. **GEORGIA NORML**
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94. **YES**

95. **"I'M LOOKING FOR A KINDER, GENTLER BUZZ -GEORGE + DAN"**

96. **BE NORMALIZED**

97. **THREE CHEESEBURGERS, LG. FRIES, APPLE PIE, LG. PEPSI (WHAT?)**

98. **NEAT STUFF**

99. **THE DIVINE TRUTH**

100. **ALL OF THE ABOVE**

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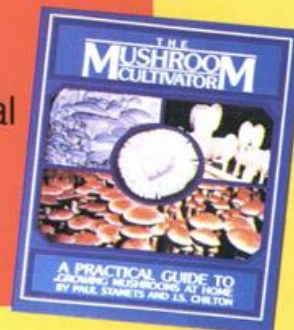
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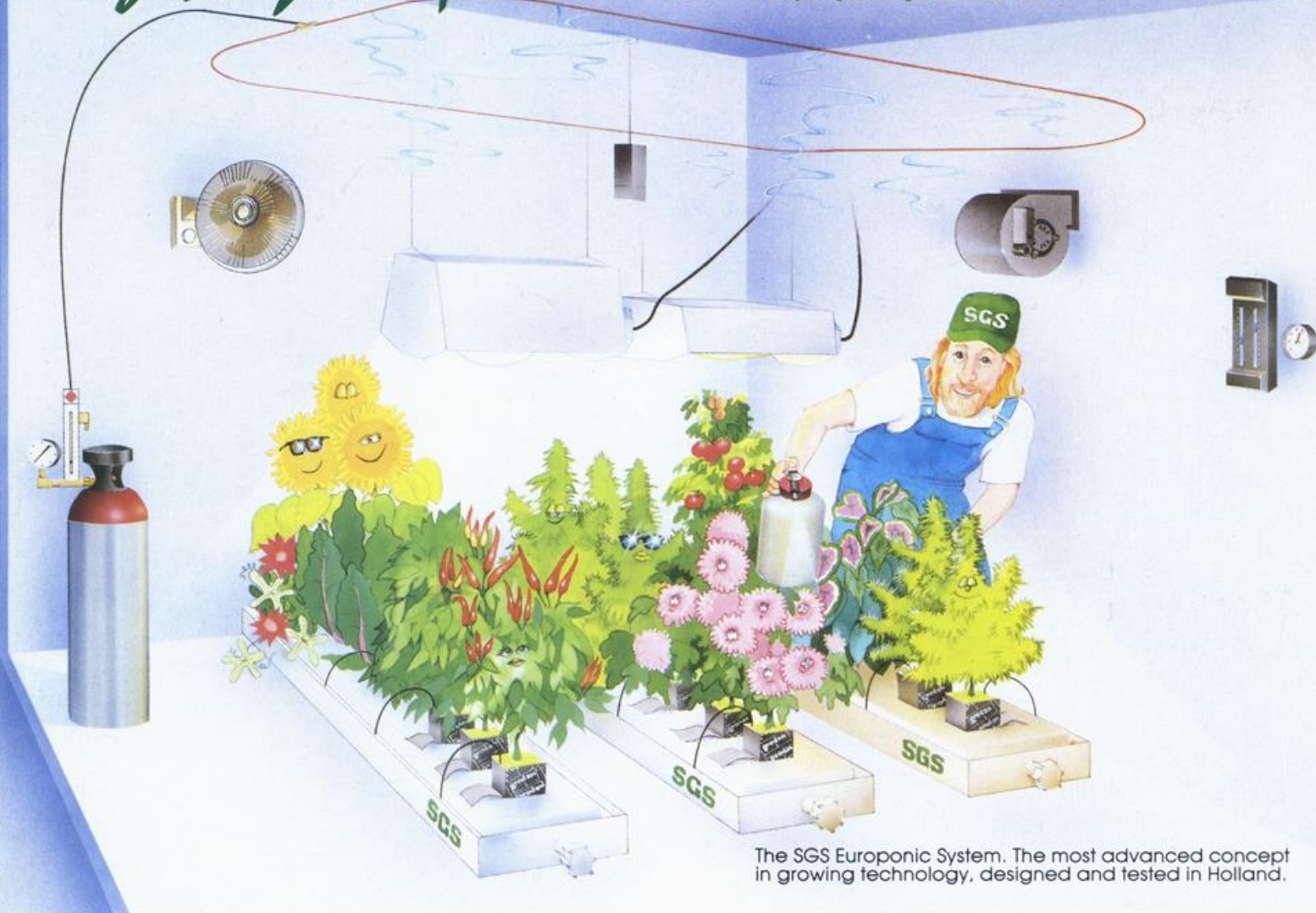
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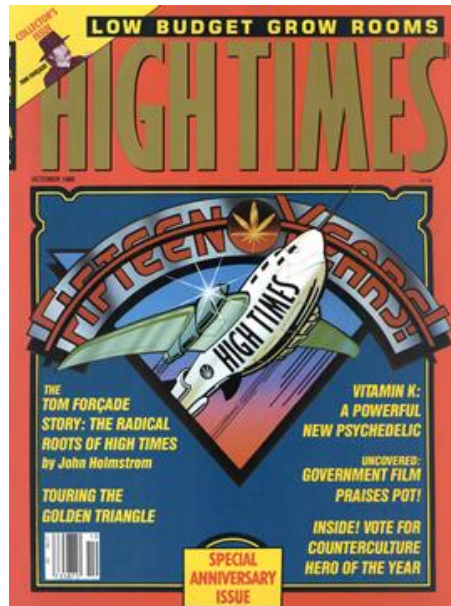
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